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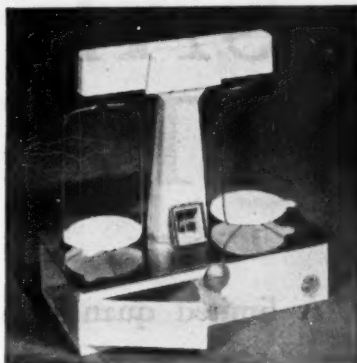
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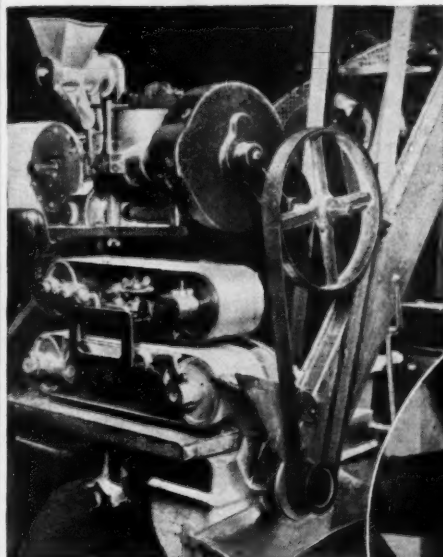
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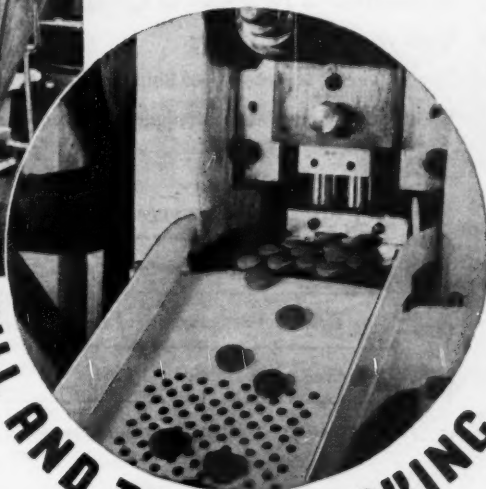
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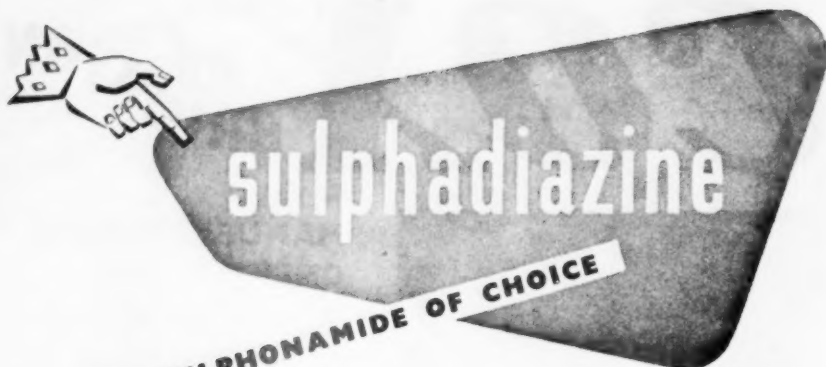
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
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
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
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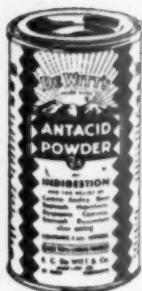
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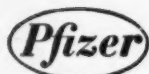


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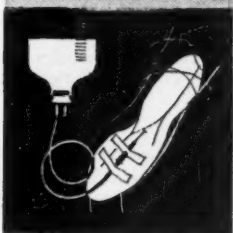
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New Series: Vol. 33—No. 389

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May 30, 1952

The Biggest Customer

Most chemists now realise that the Commonwealth Government is pharmacy's biggest customer.

Pharmaceutical services under the Repatriation Dispensing Agreement, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act and the Pensioners' Medical Service in the aggregate constitute a substantial part of the turnover of practically every pharmacy in the State. Just what proportion of income is derived from these sources has not been calculated, but it is significant.

As the biggest customer the Commonwealth Government, represented by the Department of Health, can be expected to demand certain standards of service; pharmaceutical contractors for their part insist, through their negotiators, on suitable reward for services rendered, and on conditions that will preserve professional standards of practice, or at least that will guard against any deterioration of those standards.

Preservation of satisfactory relationships between customer and salesman depends upon each playing the game. Laxity on the part of the merchant, arrogance or a high-handed attitude by the customer can strain friendly relationships; dishonesty rupture them.

When the agreements for dispensing for Pharmaceutical Benefits and Pensioners' Medical Services were negotiated, a hard bargain was made, the Commonwealth representatives feeling it was their duty to protect the public purse, and the pharmaceutical leaders carrying the responsibility of ensuring that members of the profession should receive a fair deal. Both parties to the negotiations were satisfied that a fair and reasonable agreement had been made.

Whenever a contract is entered into, it is assumed that the parties to it intend that it shall

be faithfully carried out. The common law of the land provides remedies to compensate an aggrieved party in the event of a breach. Relationships between a Government and an organised body of contractors is on a somewhat different footing, although the fundamental principles apply.

The Commonwealth, like every other customer—large or small—is entitled to a satisfactory performance of the contractual obligations implicit and explicit in the agreement which it has entered into. Individual chemists, by the very act of accepting service under the agreement, are bound to fulfil their ordinary contractual obligations. Those who are wise will do more than that. They will realise that a satisfied customer is a good customer, and that nearly always that customer will place his patronage where the service is best. The buyer today is more discerning than previously.

There have been reports—fortunately very few in number—of unsatisfactory service. Such lapses occur in every occupation and profession. Usually the customer has his own remedy. He can transfer his own custom at will.

The Commonwealth Government likewise can easily cope with such a situation by terminating its business with an individual. Conversely any chemist can voluntarily give up his approval to supply Pharmaceutical Benefits.

There is no greater folly in business than becoming indifferent or casual in attending to the requirements of a valued client or customer. The professional or business man who becomes a victim of such an attitude is heading for failure.

Every unit in the pharmaceutical service therefore should function efficiently under the contracts made with the Government on their behalf.

It must not be forgotten that the biggest customer is an influential one, with all the backing of the Government behind him, and strong enough to ensure that the standards he determines shall be met.

THE MONTH

QUOTATION FOR THE MONTH

Any fool can waste, any fool can muddle, but it takes something of a man to save, and the more he saves the more of a man does it make him.

—Kipling.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' THREAT TO RETAIL PHARMACY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Retail pharmacy in New South Wales is again faced with a threat of open competition by U.F.S. Dispensaries.

The April issue of "Gilseal News" for that State says:

"The Friendly Societies Dispensary movement has again abruptly ruptured discussions with the Guild on the matter of lodge dispensing. It has announced its intention to importune Parliament to alter the law to permit establishment of chains of dispensaries with power to trade with the public."

The pretext given for this action is that the Guild in New South Wales has terminated its contract with the dispensaries, and that as a result the Friendly Society members in areas where there are no Society pharmacies will have to pay full charges for medicines.

The Editor of "Gilseal News" emphatically refutes the statement that chemists will no longer supply medicines to Lodge members. He says the statement is entirely false, and continues in the following words:—

"Your Guild recently signed an agreement for dispensing with a group of three large and reputable Friendly Societies, upon terms and conditions equitable and just. Identical terms and conditions were offered to the other Friendly Societies, but they rejected them out of hand. The Friendly Societies' Dispensary Movement wants open trading, and nothing else will satisfy the personal rapacity of its laymen administrators."

In the leading article "Gilseal News" affirms that the Guild has "taken up the challenge, and with characteristic violence and efficiency has deployed its forces for immediate action to combat the threat of unrestricted and open trading dispensaries of the chain store type."

The threat is a very grave one. The dispensaries enjoy certain privileges, and escape imposts to which other businesses are subject. Their function, in the first place, was to provide medicines for their own members. Extension of their activities into the open trading field is totally unnecessary and a gross interference with private practice of private chemists. So much is at stake that the Guild will undoubtedly use all its forces to counter this encroachment.

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

The serious position that could arise from restricted imports of essential drugs is not being overlooked.

The danger of running out of vital life-saving drugs and medical supplies was experienced in the 1939-1945 war, when Australia at one time had not more than a month's supply of many indispensable items in her stores, and was threatened with invasion.

Enquiries which have been made show that, although there is no reason for panic at the present time, every precaution to avoid a recurrence of the shortage of 1940 and the ensuing years must be taken.

A Pharmaceutical Supplies Panel, acting under the direction of the Department of Health, has been established, and meets regularly to consider the supply position. Very little publicity is given to this organisation, but it is known that effective work is being carried on. That responsible Commonwealth authorities are aware of the necessity for ensuring adequate supplies is indicated by the assurance given by the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, that the Commonwealth would not refuse licences for essential drugs in short supply. He was replying to representatives of the medical profession who said that supplies of some drugs were becoming dangerously low, and that they and hospitals might have difficulty in getting supplies in an emergency. Mr. Menzies said that, in spite of the critical exchange position, the Commonwealth Government fully recognised that drugs are essential for the health of the people, and must be placed high on any priority list.

An implication of the restrictions likely to have serious results is that under the operation of Contract Law the import licensing regulations by the Commonwealth of Australia do not afford legal ground for the cancellation of contracts by buyers in England acting as agents for principals in Australia. The Retail Traders' Association of New South Wales had taken senior Counsel's opinion on this matter, and in its Journal dated April 10 states that this opinion indicates that if overseas agents refuse to take delivery of the goods in pursuance of contracts, or fail to pay, they will be liable for damages for breach of contract, and may have any English assets attached in satisfaction of verdicts for damages now or at a future date. It points out that in such event depletion of Australian-London funds could occur, but more particularly when restrictions are lifted many importers will be faced with a continuing liability for payment and storage of goods not received, and for damages arising from dishonoured contracts. The Association has made strong representations to the Commonwealth Government on the matter.

HOSPITAL DISPENSING IN VICTORIA

For the past 25 years the pharmaceutical requirements of private and intermediate patients in hospitals in Victoria have been provided by chemists in private practice under a roster system organised by the Pharmaceutical Society.

These arrangements now appear to be in jeopardy, as the Council of the Society has received advice from the Hospitals and Charities Commission (see report of Council meeting this month) that, following agreement between the Commonwealth and State Governments in relation to hospital finance, the agreement with the Society is to be terminated, and intimating that in future medicines for all patients, including private and intermediate patients, will be supplied from the Pharmacy Departments of public hospitals where such exist and are in charge of registered pharmaceutical chemists. If the threat materialises many chemists will be seriously affected.

In the metropolitan area a number of chemists have specially developed their businesses over many years to provide an adequate pharmaceutical service for private and intermediate patients in hospitals. This has been done in some cases at the expense of other business, and a sudden withdrawal of the hospital work will cause severe embarrassment. In the provincial towns and some of the larger country centres where hospital pharmacy departments operate the pharmaceutical chemists in the areas will also suffer hardship. In view of the principle involved and the number of members likely to be affected, the Society's concern is easily understood.

A.N.A. TO ADMIT WOMEN MEMBERS

The Australian Natives' Association for the first time in its history has decided to admit women as honorary members so that they may gain the benefits of the Federal Government's Hospital Benefits Plan.

The new Chief President of the Association (Mr. J. E. Kelway) in making the announcement said it was felt that the Association should do everything possible to assist the Commonwealth in making the new hospital benefits available to the general public. The contribution for honorary members had been fixed at the nominal fee of 2/- a year, and such members could contribute to a family hospital benefit fund, and so become eligible for the additional Commonwealth benefit. Women could be admitted in this category.

The A.N.A. principle of requiring all members to be Australian born still remained the fundamental basis of the organisation.

PENSIONERS' MEDICAL SERVICE RATES FIXED

In this issue we publish details of the unit drug container prices fixed for various categories of prescriptions under the Pensioners' Medical Service, and chemists throughout Australia will by now have received statements and where due cheques in payment of amounts due for the six months to December 31, 1951, after adjustments according to the new schedules have been made.

Many complaints concerning the 4/- interim payment were heard, and there is little doubt that in some instances chemists were out of pocket for considerable sums. Under any system of averaging there must be discrepancies, but it was always made clear that if hardship was imposed by reason of unusual prescribing or other circumstances, the matter would be investigated and adjusted by the Department of Health.

Dissatisfaction has been expressed by some members at the new rates—particularly those relating to certain mixtures—but it is doubtful whether many have made a sufficiently detailed survey of the whole position to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to whether the figures—arrived at by the Pharmaceutical Statistical Bureau after extensive and comprehensive survey—represent a fair average in their own particular pharmacy.

It is, of course, unscientific and unbusinesslike to select one item in a schedule for criticism without considering all of the other items which are taken into account in arriving at an average figure.

The State Branches of the Guild in the various States are making check surveys, and from the results of these data which should be of great value should become available.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS ACT STATUTORY COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Pharmaceutical Committees have been set up in all States under the provisions of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.

In two States at least meetings have been held to consider breaches or alleged breaches of the terms of service or alleged improper practice.

Personnel of the Committees is entirely pharmaceutical, and the State Committees are chaired by the representative

P.D.L. WARNING—No. 9.

AUSTRALIAN CHEMISTS COMPELLED TO INSURE

Most insurance is voluntary—if one elects to "carry the risk" he is at liberty to do so, reaping a nominal "profit" from the premiums he has saved if nothing happens, or paying a heavy penalty by personally meeting any claim if misfortune overtakes him.

Some insurances, however, are compulsory. If one is a car owner, Third Party Insurance is a "must." Similarly, those who are employers must cover their employees under Workers' Compensation Insurance for any accidents or injuries sustained in the course of their occupations.

There are a few chemists who are not aware that Workers' Compensation Insurance is compulsory under State Law, and any who have neglected to take out this cover should remedy the omission by consulting the P.D.L. Branch Office without delay.

of the Pharmaceutical Service section of the Department of Health in the State concerned.

Committees make no decisions, but after consideration of details submitted to them make recommendations to the Minister.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONSIDERING ONE YEAR POST-COLLEGE INTERNSHIP FOR PHARMACY STUDENTS

"The Western Druggist" for April, 1952, reports that consideration is being given in British Columbia to the possibility of transferring the one year of practical experience at present required of students of Pharmacy in British Columbia before attending at College to after graduation. The report says that at the recent meeting of the Executive of the Council of the B.C. Pharmaceutical Association the whole question of students' training was considered. One of the proposals was for one year of practical training and another year at the termination of the College course, but it was finally decided to recommend one year of internship after completion of College studies.

It is interesting to note that in British Columbia a student takes senior matriculation or first year University training. He then spends a year in a store as a registered student and attends the College of Pharmacy for three years.

If the Executive's new recommendation is endorsed, he will be required to spend four years at the College and one year in a store following graduation, making a total of five years. During the discussion of the subject it was mentioned that the trend in the United States was towards five or six year courses.

REGISTERED DRUGGIST QUALIFICATION GOES IN IRELAND

"The Irish Chemist and Druggist" for April, 1952, reports that the Minister for Health has issued an order making operative the Pharmacy Act of 1951 as from March 10.

Under the provisions of this Act no further examinations for the qualification of "registered druggist" will be held by the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland except for apprentices serving their time prior to the date on which the Act was introduced as a Bill.

During the next three years existing registered druggists will be enabled to sit for a special examination under which they will be given the title of "chemist and druggist," and will be permitted to dispense if they pass this examination.

The ultimate effect of the Act will be to abolish, as in Northern Ireland, the qualification of "registered druggist" and to have only pharmaceutical chemists.

WHAT WILL THE HARVEST BE?

Guest Editorial in "Australasian Pharmaceutical Notes and News" by Keith Attiwill.

After milling about for years at wordy conferences on the Federal or State level in vain attempts to decide what it would do to raise the standard of pharmaceutical education in New South Wales, Official Pharmacy in this State has gone from one extreme to the other by receiving in a matter of weeks a fiat from Parliament which marks a momentous stage in our pharmaceutical history. By amending the Pharmacy Act, Parliament endorsed Professor Roland Thorp's plans in toto. Apprenticeship will be abolished when the amending legislation comes into full effect at a date to be fixed. After they have matriculated in the normal way, Pharmacy students will attend a full-time, three-years course in Pharmacy at the University to obtain a diploma or degree. They will become entitled to registration, as holders of a diploma or degree, after they have served as assistants in a pharmacy for one year. The whole of the teaching will be at the University; and the University, instead of the Pharmacy Board, will conduct the final examination.

Now that this pharmaceutical Rubicon has been crossed, the most sensible thing that the State Government could do is to encourage all the erstwhile disputants to sink their differences and collaborate in deciding what shall go into the new course. Neither patronage nor pride should be allowed to prevent this. A grave responsibility rests upon Professor Thorp and his staff to achieve a nice balance between the Sciences and the Humanities. Of every 100 persons who qualify in Pharmacy in New South Wales (and most other countries) the overwhelming majority must look to retail pharmacy for a living. The academic people must have heard the fear, expressed by many thoughtful retail pharmacists of the older generation, that the finished product of the Thorp school will be so blinded by science that he or she will be unwilling and unable to hold down a position in the average retail pharmacy.

No one with a full knowledge and appreciation of the extraordinarily high ability of Professor Thorp could believe that he would make the fundamental error of turning out a product that did not have a good chance of becoming absorbed in the widening field of retail, hospital and manufacturing pharmacy.

While the University teaching staff will carry a heavy burden of responsibility (a fact of which they are well aware), the obligations of Official Pharmacy in New South Wales are no less onerous. The Pharmacy Board has had its wings clipped in a summary (and rather high-handed) fashion. Scant consideration has been given to its collective authority. The Society, which has worked hard to advance the status of Pharmacy, might well have been brought officially into the discussions which preceded the introduction of the amending legislation. The Guild, as the spearhead of retail pharmacy, was not given a chance to take part in the talks. Instead, if we are to read between the lines of Hansard, Ministers and their advisers preferred to listen too much to unofficial spokesmen.

That is done and past. Official Pharmacy should be given every encouragement by the University Senate to help Professor Thorp and his teaching staff in suitable directions. New South Wales has become the experimental ground in pharmaceutical education. The seeds of reform, imported from the British nurseries, have been well planted by a scientific hand; and though they may take a couple of years to germinate, we can expect the first crop round about 1956. What will the harvest be?

SCIENCE SECTION



EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

THE FORTHCOMING BRITISH VETERINARY CODEX

The following is an abstract of portion of an address given in Manchester (England) by R. Neal-Morris, M.R.C.V.S., M.P.S., a member of the British Veterinary Codex Committee:—

As a result of discussions between representatives of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the National Veterinary Medical Association (now the British Veterinary Association) and the Pharmaceutical Society, it was decided in 1950 to prepare a British Veterinary Codex, to be published by the Society. This publication is required for various reasons, such as the poor quality of drugs used for animals and the lack of reliable references and standards, the need to guard the public against the purchase of worthless medicines, and the desirability of bringing animal medicines under control. A committee was appointed, composed of six veterinary surgeons, five pharmacists and one member qualified in both professions, with sub-committees to deal with (a) Action and Uses, (b) Biological Preparations, (c) Formulary, (d) Standards and (e) Hormones.

It is hoped that the British Veterinary Codex will become a world-wide book of reference for veterinary surgeons and pharmacists, providing standards for old and new drugs of therapeutic value, and for the wide range of biologicals used in veterinary practice. There are corresponding members in many overseas countries, and drugs and vaccines used abroad will be included in the book. The presentation will be similar to that of the British Pharmaceutical Codex, in four parts:

Part 1.—General monographs on chemical, vegetable and animal drugs.

- (a) Name in English. Latin names and synonyms as subsidiary titles.
- (b) Description.
- (c) Standards in full detail for substances not in the B.P. or B.P.C. or where these standards are inapplicable in veterinary practice.
- (d) Action and uses, including the latest work of known or proved value.
- (e) Toxicity, if any, and antidotes.
- (f) Dosage in Metric and Imperial systems for those animals in which the drug is used.

Part 2.—Approximately 70 monographs on antisera, vaccines, biologicals and related products. It is hoped that, where necessary, reference standards will be held by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Part 3.—Formulary. Numerous formulae are being prepared and tested. Reference will be made to the

B.P. or B.P.C. where applicable. Full directions will be given for preparation, dosage and storage.

Part 4.—Appendices. These will probably include tables of weights and measures, conversion tables, sterility tests, gestation periods, pharmacological and therapeutic indices.

A good part of the work is now complete, but sections on modern drugs will be added as near as possible to publication date, probably in 1953.—*Pharm J.*, April 5, 1952.

MODERN INSECTICIDES

Abstract of address by R. H. Pearce to the Western Australian Branch, Royal Australian Chemical Institute, reported in *Proceedings of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute*, February, 1952.

The use of synthetic organic compounds as insecticides arose in the first place from the needs of the last war. The success of the chlorinated hydrocarbons in particular has been most striking, and at present approximately 40,000 tons of D.D.T. (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) are employed annually, as well as other compounds.

The original Zeidler process for manufacture of D.D.T. may be improved to give higher yields and a higher content of the p-p-isomer at a lower temperature by using chlorosulphonic acid in place of pure sulphuric acid as condensing agent in the reaction of chloral with chlorobenzene; but stricter control of conditions is then required. Replacement of the chlorine of D.D.T. by fluorine or by methoxy has also produced effective insecticides. Toxaphene, made by chlorinating camphene, resembles D.D.T. in its properties, and aldrin a hexachlorodiendomethanohexahydronaphthalene, is similar but more toxic. B.H.C. benzene hexachloride (an addition compound of benzene and chlorine) is obtained as a mixture of stereoisomers of which about 13 per cent. is the active gamma form. The pure gamma isomers (lindane) can be separated, and is available commercially, but no satisfactory use for the residues has been found. Chlordane, made from chlorine and cyclopentadiene, lies between D.D.T. and lindane in effectiveness, and is of special interest locally because of its high toxicity to Argentine ants. Besides these, the organic phosphates, parathion, isopexostox and T.E.P.P. (tetraethyl pyrophosphate) are good against aphides, mites and flea-beetles, which are not easily killed by other compounds. Allethrin shows promise of being a good substitute for pyrethrin.

A fair estimate of the toxicity of these compounds to man may be made on a weight-ratio basis from

ARTICLES

- The Forthcoming British Veterinary Codex.
- Modern Insecticides.
- Mould Growth in Syrups.
- The Assimilation of Amino-Acids by Bacteria.
- Hyoscine and Antihistamine Compounds in the Prevention of Seasickness.
- Alehrine in Treatment of Tapeworm Infestation.
- The Enzymatic Action of Vitamin D.
- The Sulphur Problem.
- Aspirin and Bleeding.
- The Metabolism of Sorbitol.
- A Pyrethrin Synergist.
- Antibiotics and the Control of Plant Diseases.

experiments on animals. In this way the following lethal doses for man have been roughly estimated:—30 g. chlordane; 20 g. lindane; 10 g. allethrin or isopos-tox; 0.4 g. aldrin; 0.3 g. parathion; 0.2 g. B.H.C. or T.E.P.P. Factory workers handling D.D.T. are usually required to take special precautions, but the hazard from material remaining on sprayed fruit or vegetables is usually ignored. Some fruits such as oranges and tomatoes may absorb the insecticide, especially B.H.C., becoming thereby slightly tainted. The effect is specially noticeable in canned fruit. Treatment for wire-worms and similar insects by working about 12 lb. of crude B.H.C. into the soil is very effective, but may seriously taint potato crops for two years after application. The remedy is to use purified B.H.C. and to select carefully the variety of potato.

A striking and disappointing feature of the use of many of these insecticides has been the acquirement by the insects of a limited amount of resistance after a few generations of survivors. One should therefore as far as possible treat so thoroughly that there are no survivors. In the field no significant acquired resistance to lindane or pyrethrin has been noticed, probably because these insecticides act faster than D.D.T., and even in the case of the latter the acquired resistance in field tests is well below the maximum found in laboratory experiments. Acquired resistance to insecticides has been attributed in the case of flies to the development of less-absorbing pads on the feet, or to new breeding and living habits, or to unspecified genetic changes.

Increase of toxicity to insects by the addition of synergists, which by themselves are only slightly toxic, is a remarkable and useful phenomenon which may be a useful answer to the resistance problem. For pyrethrin many such synergists have been discovered, notably sesame oil, and it is reported from the U.S.A. that synergists for D.D.T. have recently been discovered. The most effective one is dichlorodiphenyl methyl carbinol.

The method of application of water-insoluble insecticides presents some features of interest. A solution may usually be made in kerosene or (for air spraying) a non-inflammable solvent such as Freon 12. Such solutions may be sprayed from the air or forced as a jet on to a hot plate producing a cloud of particles of adjustable size. Alternatively, and more commonly, the non-aqueous solution is made into a stable emulsion with water and sprayed in this form. Supplements such as gums, soaps or rosin improve the spreading and adhesion to leaf surfaces. Both D.D.T. and lindane are fairly stable to heat, and it is possible to fumigate rooms by igniting a mixture of one or both of these with potassium chlorate and sugar, with only about 25 per cent. of the active constituent.

Chemical assay is based largely on the ready hydrolysis of chlorinated hydrocarbon by alcoholic potash, followed by a simple chloride titration. Marked differences in rate of hydrolysis can if necessary be used to distinguish and estimate different isomers, but all these reactions are completed in a few minutes at 80 deg. C. D.D.T. splits off one molecule of hydrogen chloride and B.H.C. loses three; this provides a useful distinction and method of analysis of mixtures. When dealing with the commercial compounds, however, the results must be interpreted with caution, owing to the presence of impurities, and the method is mainly useful for confirmation and rough quantitative work.

MOULD GROWTH IN SYRUPS

From Recent Research Reviews by H. S. Grainger, Ph.C., in *Export Review*.

Mould growth in syrups is, of course, no new phenomenon to pharmacists, and most of us are familiar with this troublesome characteristic in the case of syrup

of codeine phosphate. It is curious that a syrup of such high sucrose content and consequent high osmotic pressure should support fungal growth in this way. Atkinson has published a lengthy account of his investigation of this problem with a view to suggesting a formula which would give greater resistance to micro-organisms. First he investigated the effect of boiling the syrup, sterilising the cork, and varying storage conditions in such respects as access of light and temperature. He also prepared syrups containing the equivalent amount of codeine hydrobromide and codeine hydrochloride, and subjected them to the same procedures. Visual examination for moulds or gaseous bubbles indicative of fermentation were made in each case, and the results were tabulated. From the tables it is shown that the phosphate is much more liable to mould growth than the hydrobromide or the hydrochloride. None of the syrups prepared with codeine hydrochloride produced visible mould growth or fermentation unless deliberately inoculated with high concentrations of yeast. Variations of physical conditions such as light and temperature appear to have exercised little influence on the results. The effect of adding fungistatic agents was tried, and it is surprising to read that the ones which had least effect were the methyl and propyl esters of p-hydroxybenzoic acid which have been widely used for the preservation of pharmaceutical syrups and other products for several years. Copper in concentrations varying from one part per 1,000,000 to one in 100 was ineffective in protecting the syrup from mould growth. To make the conditions of testing the fungistatic compounds more stringent, suspensions of brewers' yeast were added to the syrups. The results were the same in both series. Substances found to be effective in protecting the syrups were alcohol 4 per cent. or chloroform one in 400. Syrup of codeine hydrochloride made with commercially available material was less liable to mould growth than the phosphate, and could be protected by the addition of glycerin 12.5 per cent. or spirit of chloroform 1.25 per cent.

THE ASSIMILATION OF AMINO-ACIDS BY BACTERIA

Abstract of an address by Dr. E. F. Gale to a joint meeting of Chemical Societies, Edinburgh, December, 1951.

The meeting was reported in *Chemistry and Industry*, February 16, 1952.

Investigations of the amino-acid composition of bacteria show that some organisms contain high concentrations of certain amino-acids in the free state within the cells. Basic amino-acids, such as lysine, are found to diffuse through the osmotic barrier of the cell surface, whereas acidic amino-acids, such as glutamic acid, require exergonic metabolism by the cell before they can pass into the cell. An attempt has been made to explain this requirement for energy in the case of the passage of glutamic acid into *Staphylococci*, and to discover reasons why the cells should accumulate such amino-acids in the free state.

The accumulation of glutamic acid within the cell can be dissociated from the energy-providing fermentation system by drugs belonging to the group of uncoupling agents. This suggests that a metabolic step, linked to glycolysis, is involved in the accumulation process. The presence of other amino-acids in addition to glutamic acid leads, in specific cases, to the formation of extra-cellular peptides of glutamic acid and consequent reduction of the amount of free glutamic acid accumulating within the cell. No increase in the cell protein occurs under these conditions, and it is found that a complete mixture of amino-acids, in addition to glucose, is necessary to promote protein synthesis by cell suspensions. The growth requirements of the

organism investigated indicate that 14 of the natural amino-acids are essential for growth; omission of any one of these from the amino-acid mixture prevents protein synthesis. When the cells are synthesising protein in such a mixture, no accumulation of free glutamic acid occurs within the cells, but the free amino-acid already present is used for protein synthesis. Under optimal conditions, glutamic acid is withdrawn from inside and outside the cell and incorporated directly and quantitatively into the cell protein.

Since the cell synthesises protein when all the essential amino-acids are supplied, peptides when simple mixtures of two or three amino-acids are supplied, but accumulates free glutamic acid when that is the only amino-acid provided, it seems probable that the three processes are metabolically linked, and that the accumulation of the free amino-acid is a result of disorganisation of the protein-synthesising mechanism. Antibiotics have been found which interfere with specific stages in these processes, and it is hoped to obtain light on protein synthesis within bacterial cells by the use of such substances as diagnostic tools.

HYOSCINE AND ANTIHISTAMINE COMPOUNDS IN THE PREVENTION OF SEASICKNESS

E. M. Glaser and G. R. Hervey (Lancet, 1951, 256, 749).

A controlled and crossed-over experiment was made at sea in which 68 healthy volunteers (soldiers) were in turn given 1 mg. of hyoscyne hydrobromide, 25 mg. of diphenhydramine hydrochloride (benaldryl), 25 mg. of promethazine hydrochloride (phenegan), and a placebo. Of those who might otherwise have vomited 96 per cent. were protected by hyoscyne, 61 per cent. by promethazine and 30 per cent. by diphenhydramine. If nausea and vomiting are considered together, the figures were 77, 65 and 30 per cent. respectively. All the drugs were remarkably free from side effects in the doses given. These findings strongly confirm previous observations that hyoscyne hydrobromide effectually prevents seasickness in a large number of people, and that 1 mg. is a safe dose. Hyoscyne did not prevent nausea with equal success, but since it was unquestionably more effective in preventing vomiting, there can be no doubt that it would be the preferred drug. Hyoscyne caused a feeling of dryness in the mouth in most subjects, but headaches, dry mouth, giddiness and drowsiness are all symptoms of seasickness which were present in a number of untreated men.—J. Pharm. and Pharmacol., iv. 3. 213.

ATEBRINE IN TREATMENT OF TAPEWORM INFESTATION

By L.G.D.

Atebrine, long recognised as the drug of choice against malaria, has been successfully used in the cure of a completely unrelated disease, tapeworm infestation, by Drs. W. A. Sodeman and Rodney C. Jung, of Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, who have found the anti-malarial drug to be effective in dislodging tapeworms from the intestine.

Tapeworm infestations are widespread throughout the world, with the most common types of tapeworm being beef, pork, fish and dwarf. It is estimated that 40,000,000 people throughout the world suffer from beef tapeworm alone. Some 200,000 persons in the United States and Canada are believed to be infected with the dwarf and fish forms of tapeworm disease, while beef and pork tapeworm infestations, although not as prevalent, also occur in North America.

Tapeworms are parasites which lodge in the intestinal tract of man, sometimes attaining a length of five yards. To achieve a cure it is necessary to expel the head of

the worm from the body. If the head remains in the system it can regenerate another worm.

Testing the effect of atebrine in a series of 11 patients suffering from the parasitic worms, Drs. Sodeman and Jung found that in 10 of them a single treatment sufficed to eliminate the entire tapeworm from the body. A second course of treatment with the drug cleared the 11th patient.

The plan of treatment involved purging the patient both before and after administration of atebrine. On the morning of treatment Epsom salts were given. One hour later atebrine was administered, two tablets being given every five minutes until the entire dosage was taken. Two to four hours later the purge was repeated.

According to the Tulane physicians, the only distressing reactions of importance were some nausea and vomiting, which were mild and easily controlled. Citing the test results as "excellent," they recommend the anti-malarial as the drug of choice for the treatment of tapeworm infestations.

Atebrine was developed prior to World War II as a synthetic antimalarial to replace quinine. It has shown promising results also against other parasitic worms, such as pinworms.

THE ENZYMATIC ACTION OF VITAMIN D

(From Nutrition Newsletter, Office of International Information, U.S.A.)

The biochemical mode of action of fat-soluble vitamins is still largely unknown. In particular, although many aspects of the over-all effects of vitamin D deficiency on calcium and phosphorus metabolism are known, no enzymatic interpretations of these effects could be given. A series of papers by R. Zetterström and his collaborators, working in Stockholm, Sweden, brings an important lead to the possible role of vitamin D in cellular physiology.

One obvious difficulty in studying the biochemical properties of any of the fat-soluble substances *in vitro* resides precisely in the fact that their lack of solubility in water prevents their interaction with purified water-soluble enzyme systems. Keeping in mind, however, the fact that other workers had been able to study the effects of alphatocopherol and of certain estrogenic hormones in the aqueous phase by preparing the phosphorylated derivatives, R. Zetterström (*Nature*, 167, 409 (1951)) prepared phosphorylated vitamin D₂ (D₂P).

The vitamin is dissolved in dry, newly distilled pyridine, and phosphorylated by the action of phosphorus oxychloride in the dark at -5°C. The phosphorylated compound is soluble in water in concentrations up to 5×10^{-4} molar. It is characterised by its ultraviolet absorption spectrum, with a maximum absorption at 2620 to 2650 Å. It is considerably more sensitive to light than the monophosphorylated substance; and, upon irradiation, certain physical properties—particularly its ultraviolet absorption—are reduced.

A family of enzymes of particular interest in rickets, and hence possibly concerned with the metabolic role of vitamin D, is that of the "alkaline phosphatases." These enzymes, in contradistinction to the "acid phosphatase" with an optimum pH of about 5, present their greatest rate of activity at a pH of about 9. They are widely distributed in ossifying cartilage, bone, kidneys and intestinal mucosa. An alkaline phosphatase is also found, in relatively smaller amounts, in blood serum. It has been shown that phosphatases hydrolyze hexosemonophosphoric ester and glycerophosphoric ester, liberating inorganic phosphate. In the bone, it has been assumed that the inorganic phosphate thus liberated in turn affects the product of the calcium and phosphate ions in solution to such a degree that the solubility product is exceeded, and the excess calcium phosphate

is deposited. Through a similar mechanism, phosphatases might also play the essential role in intestinal absorption and kidney-tubule reabsorption of phosphorus. In rickets of infancy and early childhood, the serum alkaline phosphatase is generally high. From a normal of 5 to 15 units per 100 cubic centimeters of blood, it may increase up to 20 to 30 units in mild cases, 40 to 60 units in moderately severe cases, and 190 units in very severe cases. Phosphatases appeared, therefore, to be the logical enzymes to investigate in connection with vitamin D metabolism.

With the new tool afforded by the water-soluble D₂P, R. Zetterström and M. Ljunggren (*Acta chem. Scandinav.*, **5**, 283 (1951)) were able to demonstrate that vitamin D activates alkaline phosphatases from the kidneys, intestines and bones. When D₂P is added to purified kidney phosphatase, for example, in the presence of the classical substrate, phenylphosphate, twice as much inorganic phosphate is split from the substrate during the first twenty minutes of incubation as appears without the addition of the phosphorylated vitamin. Similar results are obtained with intestinal phosphatase. In the case of bone phosphatase, the activating effect of D₂P is even higher, being of the order of 400 per cent. during the first twenty minutes. The concentration of phosphorylated vitamin necessary for maximum activation is extremely small, being of the order of 10^{-5} molar. Maximum activation is reached at a high pH, approximately 9.7, close to the optimum pH of alkaline phosphatase.

The experimental results of Zetterström and Ljunggren seem thus to provide the key to an enzymatic explanation of the role of vitamin D in the prevention of rickets. If normal ossification is to take place, the animal must be able to absorb and retain a sufficient amount of phosphate, and this must then be utilised by the bone-forming tissue. This in turn means that intestinal absorption, kidney-tubule reabsorption, and phosphate deposition in the bone must be adequate. It has been recalled above that all three operations most probably entail a role for the alkaline phosphatases. If these need to be activated by vitamin D, the role of this vitamin becomes clear. Conversely, a deficiency in vitamin D will produce, through the resultant lack of activation of alkaline phosphatases, poor intestinal absorption of phosphates, excessive renal loss of phosphates, and poor ossification—the three essential aspects of rickets.

The role of vitamin D seems, however, to be more general than the simple prevention of rickets. Besides the general effect of vitamin D in growth (G. Stearns, P. C. Jeans, and V. Vandecar, *J. Pediat.*, **9**, 1 (1936)), the vitamin has been repeatedly implicated in carbohydrate metabolism—in muscle tissue, in particular. More specifically, numerous experiments seem to indicate that in vitamin D deficiency there is an impairment of the oxidative phase of carbohydrate metabolism (L. Laszt, *Helvet. physiol. pharmacol. acta*, **1**, C44, 1943). To find an enzymatic interpretation of these observations, R. Zetterström (*Acta chem. Scandinav.*, **5**, 343 (1951)) has also examined the effect of his water-soluble form D₂P on the oxygen uptake of the respiratory enzyme complex in kidney mitochondria obtained from healthy rabbits and rats. This enzyme complex is known to catalyze all the reactions of the tricarboxylic acid cycle and fatty acid oxidation.

The mitochondria were prepared by high speed low-temperature centrifugation of ground tissue under the proper conditions. They were then suspended in a medium containing potassium, magnesium, fluoride and phosphate ions; adenosine-5-phosphate was added; glutamate was used as oxidizable substrate, and glucose served as phosphate acceptor. Hexokinase was added in order to transfer phosphate to glucose. The pH of the mixture was 7.3; the temperature 30°C. The effect of D₂P, at a concentration of 2×10^{-5} molar, on the oxygen uptake of the mitochondria suspension was then studied. Activation was found to be considerable dur-

ing the initial period of the reaction. After thirty minutes of incubation the oxygen uptake was found to be almost double that observed without the addition of D₂P. When the experiment was repeated, using kidney mitochondria from rachitic, rather than healthy rats, the activation factor was much greater than 2.

As far as the mechanism of action of this activation of respiratory mechanisms is concerned, it did not at first appear that it is due to an increase in the rate of phosphorylation. In fact, net esterification of phosphate is shown to be less in the presence of D₂P than in its absence, and the difference gradually increases as the experiment is prolonged. Furthermore, the net uptake of phosphate decreases if the concentration of D₂P is increased. If, on the other hand, phosphatases as well as phosphorylases are considered, this paradoxical effect becomes understandable. The mitochondria contain a phosphatase which is specific for glucose-6-phosphate. After D₂P is added to the preparation, there is a marked initial increase in the phosphatase activity toward glucose-6-phosphate, similar to that observed toward phenylphosphate in the case of the purified alkaline phosphatase. The activating effect on respiration of the phosphorylated vitamin D, which takes place at the period of most intense esterification of organic compounds, is probably, therefore, obscured, when tested *in vitro*, by the concomitant activation of phosphatase activity, which masks the phosphate uptake. To the interpretation, given in this earlier paper, of the role of vitamin D in the prevention of rickets, the author thus adds a clear basis for the understanding of the role of vitamin D in general metabolism.

When the year's progress in nutrition is reviewed, it seems possible that the work of Zetterström, if confirmed, will be considered an outstanding contribution. Not only does the enzymatic role of vitamin D become understandable, but, furthermore, this enzymatic role permits one to interpret all of the essential symptoms of vitamin-D deficiency. Thus, an explanation of the intestinal and renal aspects of vitamin D deficiency—an interpretation of the essential aspects of rickets as far as bone formation is concerned—and a suggestion of the possible role of vitamin D in general metabolism, all become available. By comparison, it may be recalled that even in the cases of B vitamins for which one or several enzymatic functions have been known for several years, this knowledge does not yet afford a rational explanation of the observed effects of the corresponding deficiency.

—(Nutrition Reviews, **10**, No. 1, 25-27 (1952)).

THE SULPHUR PROBLEM

An editorial note, *The Pharmaceutical Journal*, April 5, 1952.

"The prosperity of a country can be gauged by its output of sulphuric acid." Although this statement may be less true today than it was two or three decades ago, it is the text chosen by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for a world survey of the sulphur and sulphuric acid position. To a very great extent the world is dependent upon the United States of America for its supplies of sulphur, but even there the reserves are not inexhaustible, and the U.S. Government has recently taken steps to husband its resources by restricting internal consumption and exports. It is, therefore, a little reassuring to learn that probably as much has been done in Britain as in any other country to utilise sources of sulphur, other than elemental sulphur, and to recover sulphur from waste gases, etc. If, as forecast, the sulphur domes of Texas and Louisiana have only a sufficient supply for 15 years, it is obvious that other sources must be utilised, and the recently-discovered domes in the Mis-

Mississippi Delta, with an estimated annual output of half a million tons, are the most promising source, although we must wait until next year before the maximum supply is available. In the present year, state the D.S.I.R., world production is one million tons short of requirements, and by 1953 the shortage, because of increasing demand—not all of it accounted for by the rearmament programme—is expected to be about two million tons, or one and a half million tons if new possible sources are taken into account. Thus it appears that even with new supplies the world position is bound to worsen, and in consequence the most stringent measures may be needed so that sufficient sulphur may be available for essential purposes.

ASPIRIN AND BLEEDING

From Recent Research Reviews by H. S. Grainger, Ph.C., in *Export Review*.

Aspirin is so widely used as a domestic remedy, and accidental fatalities are so few, that there is a tendency to overlook its toxic properties. In large doses aspirin or salicylates will produce purpura and haemorrhage; the prothrombin level falls sharply, and may be restored by the administration of vitamin K. It has not generally been considered that this action of aspirin could be of importance with the small doses normally used. Smith and Mackinnon, however, have reported a case of a young man of 21 who, after the extraction of some teeth, suffered from prolonged bleeding. He had been taking aspirin to relieve his toothache, and his prothrombin was found to be down to 52 per cent. On a later occasion, while an in-patient, he had further extractions under anaesthetic, but aspirin was forbidden. On this occasion his bleeding stopped in a normal time, and there was no fall of prothrombin level. The patient co-operated in a series of experiments which clearly confirmed the correlation between taking aspirin and a fall in his prothrombin level with concomitant bleeding of the gums and production of petechiae. The authors, considering the purpuric effect of other substances such as allylisopropylacetylurea, point out that many of them, being different in other respects, are alike in having a phenolic nucleus with an *o*-*p*-directing substituent. Working on this theory, they suppose that phenazone, amidopyrin, the sulpho-namides and neoarsphenamine might be purpuric. The patient agreed to the trial of 0.2 gm. neoarsphenamine by intravenous injection, and the expected fall in prothrombin level was demonstrated.

THE METABOLISM OF SORBITOL

Studies on the metabolism of sorbitol (labelled with carbon 14) by Arne N. Wick, Mary C. Almen and Lionel Joseph indicate that it is rapidly oxidised when administered by the intraperitoneal route. These research workers report, in the *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*, Scientific Edition, 40, 542 (1951) that the total oxidation of C¹⁴-labelled sorbitol over a 24-hour period approaches that of labelled glucose when given to fed normal rats. Sorbitol administered orally is oxidised at a much slower rate for the first three hours. The slower rate of oxidation was shown to be due chiefly to delayed intestinal absorption. C¹⁴-labelled sorbitol and glucose produce equal amounts of liver glycogen when given to fasted rats; the amount of incorporation of C¹⁴ in the glycogen is the same with the two compounds. It is believed that the metabolism of sorbitol proceeds through glucose.—*Pharmacy Newsletter* (International Information Service, U.S.A.), April, 1952.

A PYRETHRIN SYNERGIST

Piperonyl butoxide has been recommended in the United States as an insecticide, particularly for use with pyrethrins, for which it is a synergist (a mixture of eight parts of piperonyl butoxide with one part pyrethrin exceeds by 70 per cent. the minimum kill required in the official U.S. test for pyrethrins).

Piperonyl butoxide is the trade name of a technical product containing 80 per cent. of a 2(2-butoxy ethoxy) ethoxy 4:5-methylene dioxy 2-propyl toluene, or 4:5-methylene dioxy 2-propyl benzyl butyl diethylene glycol ether. 1,2-Piperonyl butoxide is soluble in mineral oils, and gives a clear solution with most substances used for aerosols. It evaporates without leaving a residue. The compound is practically non-toxic to warm-blooded animals (its LD/50 is 7.5 gm. per kilo.) and has no irritant properties. It has been particularly recommended as a domestic fly spray (mixed with pyrethrin) in possessing excellent "knock-down" and "kill" properties. Piperonyl butoxide with or without pyrethrin or DDT or both has been used against mosquitoes, cockroaches, aphids and other insects, and for protecting fabrics. 100 mgm. of piperonyl butoxide with 20 mgm. of pyrethrins in 100 c.c. of an odourless petroleum fraction knocked down 93 per cent. and killed 62 per cent. houseflies. With 400 mgm. of piperonyl butoxide and 40 mgm. of pyrethrins the respective kills were 97 and 90 per cent. 100 mgm. of piperonyl butoxide with 5 mgm. of pyrethrins in odourless petroleum gives 131 days' residual action after spraying. Six parts of piperonyl butoxide with one part pyrethrin in mineral oil is effective against cockroaches.—*The Chemist and Druggist*, March 29, 1952.

ANTIBIOTICS AND THE CONTROL OF PLANT DISEASES

By L.G.D.

Recent tests conducted by scientists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture indicate that the antibiotics, which have proved so effective in the treatment of human illness, may in future also be used to effectively control plant diseases.

In exploratory experiments at the Government's Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland, scientists have found the antibiotic streptomycin sulphate to be effective in controlling halo blight, a bacterial disease of bean seedlings.

In their greenhouse experiments the scientists applied minute amounts of 12 antibiotics as a thin layer of paste to the stems of Black Valentine bean seedlings. These were then inoculated with halo blight organisms. Apparently the antibiotics were absorbed by the stems and moved up to the leaves in sufficient amounts to prevent growth of the organisms. However, much work remains to be done before any of the antibiotics can be recommended for practical disease control on farms.

None of the plants treated with streptomycin sulphate developed symptoms of the disease. Only slight infection occurred in seedlings to which dihydrostreptomycin sulphate was applied. A moderate degree of infection showed up in those treated with terramycin hydrochloride. Marked symptoms of the disease appeared in untreated plants and those treated with nine other antibiotics.

This preliminary work demonstrates, the scientists say, that some antibiotics can be taken into the plant by absorption through the tissues, and will spread through the plant. The findings, demonstrating the control of a bacterial disease in plants by this means, open up a new approach to the control of plant diseases caused by bacteria, fungi and viruses.



Applied Pharmaceutics

A Section devoted to problems of every-day practice.

Advisory Panel: N. C. Manning, A. W. Callister, B. G. De Lacy,
A. T. S. Sissons.

THIS MONTH:

- Chloramphenicol Ear Drops.
- Atropine Methylnitrate in Alkaline Mixture.
- Tetanus Antitoxin—a Note on Unit Strength.
- Considerable Overdose of Procaine Hydrochloride.

DISPENSING PROBLEMS

Chloramphenicol Ear Drops.

The following method may be used to prepare a 15 per cent. w/v solution of chloramphenicol in propylene glycol for use in the treatment of ear infections (see Lewis and Gray, British Medical Journal, 1951, 2, 939) when only oral capsules are available as a source of chloramphenicol.

Add the contents of two capsules (i.e. 500 mg.) to 2 ml. (30 minims) of warm water, stir, filter and wash once with warm water. This procedure is necessary to remove the water soluble filler (lactose in the capsules we have used) which is insoluble in propylene glycol. Allow to drain, and press the insoluble residue of chloramphenicol between filter paper. When reasonably dry add the chloramphenicol to 3.3 ml. (56 minims) of propylene glycol, and warm at about 70 deg. C. until a clear solution is obtained.

Under these conditions the loss of chloramphenicol (soluble about 2.5 mg. per ml.) would be negligible.

S. E. WRIGHT.
C. J. GRIFFITHS.

Atropine Methylnitrate in Alkaline Mixture.

Please consider this prescription:—

R/
Sod. Phenobarbiton gr. 2/3
Liq. Atrop. 1% m. ½
Eumydrin gr. 1/40
Syr. Aurant. m. 30
Aq. ad m. 120
Mitte 8 fl. oz.
Sig. m. 120 t.d.s.

This writer used insoluble Phenobarbitone, since the alkalinity of the soluble might break down the Atropine Methyl Nitrate to yield free Atropine giving a dose of Atropine in excess of normal.

Is Eumydrin an alkaloidal salt and stable as such or an unstable compound?

—S.H. (Vic.).

Atropine Methyl Nitrate is a quaternary ammonium compound containing a pentavalent nitrogen. The mild alkalinity of this prescription would not affect the stability of the Atropine Methyl Nitrate, although the correspondent's action in using the Phenobarbitone is well understood and is to be commended.

Tetanus Antitoxin—a Note on Unit Strength.

One U.S.A. unit formerly equalled two international units, but in 1950 the international unit was made equal to the U.S.A. unit. Some of the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories' Tetanus Antitoxin is already being labelled with the new "International Unit 1950" (which is now equal to the U.S.A. unit).

Until the change over to the new unit is complete, to avoid confusion it would be advisable to order in terms of U.S.A. Units for the time being.

—G.K.T. (Vic.).

Considerable Overdose of Procaine Hydrochloride.

R/
Procain. Hydrochlor. 10%
In Aq. Dist. 100
Mitte doses 24.
Sig. 3ii fs ex aq. 3ii fs t.d. a.c.

The dose in this prescription is very large, but was confirmed as being correct by contacting the prescriber.

—A.W.M. (Vic.).

The oral dose of Procaine Hydrochloride in the B.P. 1932 was up to 2 gr. No dose is given in the B.P. 1948. This is the second time through these columns that an excessive oral dose of this drug has been reported. In the above case the dose is about 14 gr.

Most pharmacists would like the Pharmacopoeia generally to give more guidance on dosage than it does in the present volume.

THE PRICELESS INGREDIENT.

In the city of Bagdad lived Hekeem, the Wise One, and many people went to him for counsel, which he gave freely to all, asking nothing in return.

Then came of him a young man, who had spent much but got little, and said: "Tell me, Wise One, what shall I do to receive the most for that which I spend?"

Hakeem answered: "A thing that is bought or sold has no value unless it contain that which cannot be bought or sold. Look for the Priceless Ingredient."

"But what is the Priceless Ingredient?" asked the young man.

Spoke then the Wise One: "My son, the Priceless Ingredient of every product in the market place is the Honour and Integrity of him who makes it. Consider his name before you buy."

—"Efficiency Magazine."

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES
OF AUSTRALIA

KODAK
TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP
1953

The Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia has pleasure in announcing that the Directors of KODAK (AUSTRALASIA) PTY. LTD. have donated the sum of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS to be used as a TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP in 1953.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

The following conditions for award of the Scholarship have been adopted by the Federal Council:—

1. **Object of the Scholarship:** The object of the Scholarship is to enable the holder to carry out a study of the methods or conditions of pharmaceutical practice (including manufacture), teaching or research outside of Australia.
2. The applicant must:—
 - (i) be a graduate of a recognised pharmaceutical teaching establishment in Australia.
 - (ii) be not more than 28 years of age on December 31, 1952.
 - (iii) submit to the Federal Council the nature of the project he proposes to carry out, together with evidence of ability to do so.
 - (iv) submit the names of two suitable persons as referees.
3. The successful applicant will be required:—
 - (i) To reside outside of Australia for a period of not less than twelve months, and undertake studies, investigation or research in Great Britain or such other countries as may be approved.
 - (ii) To submit to the Federal Council periodic reports on his work at times to be agreed; and a detailed report within three months after expiration of the Scholarship.
 - (iii) By arrangement with the Federal Council to deliver a series of lectures or addresses on his work abroad in two or more States of the Commonwealth.
 - (iv) To give an undertaking that he will return to Australia and remain in active association with pharmacy for at least two years after expiry of the Scholarship.
4. Applications must be addressed in the first instance to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society in the State in which the applicant resides.
5. The award will be made by the Executive of the Federal Council.
6. The latest date for receipt of applications is **September 30, 1952.**
7. If in the opinion of the Federal Council no suitable application is received, no award will be made.
8. The Federal Council will lodge with a shipping company nominated by the successful applicant a sum of money sufficient to cover fares to and return from Great Britain or other country in which the Scholarship project is to be carried out, and will arrange for periodic payments of the balance of the £1000. A sum of £50 will be retained and paid to the applicant after submission of his final report to the Federal Council.

Notwithstanding the foregoing requirements, the Council may in its discretion consider applicants whose qualifications are not altogether as outlined above.

The award may be terminated at any time by the Federal Council if there is a good reason.

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The "Mutualist" Pharmacies of France

Is Traditional Pharmacy in Danger?

"Le Monde," Paris, February 2, 1952, published an interview (which we publish below) between the President of the Union of Mutualist Pharmacies (M. Eugene Andre) and its correspondent, Andre Leveuf, regarding the operation of "mutualist" controlled pharmacies.

(Translation)

If they want war, we shall take up the gauntlet, declares the President of the National Union of Mutualist Pharmacies, who considers the price of specialties to be 40 per cent. too dear.

M. Eugene Andre has been for many years President of the National Union of Mutualist Pharmacies. He is an exuberant Lyonnais; his face is adorned with a white pointed beard which quivers under the stress of anger and indignation. Throughout his life M. Eugene Andre has devoted himself wholeheartedly to the cause of mutual insurance (friendly societies, etc.). Fifty years ago he founded in his native town the first mutualist dispensary, which he continues to direct in spite of his many other activities. M. Eugene Andre speaks a direct, corrosive language when he pleads in favour of his work. For him hostilities between "orthodox" and "mutualist" pharmacies were declared long ago. M. Andre conducts his war with the feeling that it is a matter of legitimate resistance against aggression.

"Why separate the question of pharmacy from questions of the social work of the mutuality as a whole? Their development is only the result of the present economic lack of equilibrium. Never have we gained so much support. Never have the working classes of the country sought so to escape exploitation and unreasonable professional greed.

But mutualist pharmacies are accused of favouring certain abuses.

Is this a true affirmation of our intention? Our aim has never been more than to cover the total of the regulating ticket. I know quite well that allusion is often made to the situation of insured persons classified as suffering from long (chronic) illnesses. It is true that these sick people, refunded 100 per cent. by social security, pocket a profit of 20 per cent. on the total of their prescriptions on application to the mutualist pharmacy. But pharmaceutical expenses represent only a small part of the outlay to which a sick person must reconcile himself. If, thanks to us, the person insured recovers some money, is it not a meagre compensation to which he is quite entitled?

You are accused of provoking a rise in the consumption of pharmaceutical products.

We can refute that argument. The consumption of pharmaceutical products is increasing because people are being looked after better than before. Besides, it is the doctors, not the chemists, who write out the prescriptions.

You are accused of having transformed your dispensaries into vast enterprises of a co-operative nature.

That is false. It is the "orthodox" pharmacists who yield to the current of commercialisation. We sell neither slippers nor perfumery, but only soaps, tooth paste and eau-de-Cologne. We are the people who make prices moderate, reasonable. When one speaks of the "tremendous development" of mutualist pharmacy one would do better to refer to figures. In 1920 France had 61 mutualist pharmacies. There are today only 57.

You are accused of paying neither Customs duties nor tax.

Ridiculous. When we sell products which are not liable to a refund from the Social Security Scheme we

release the tax on the turnover. Besides, pharmacists practising their profession in a mutualist dispensary make regular returns to the Taxation Department and pay their taxes. As for deductions from benefits, we could not do that because our dispensaries, by definition, cannot make profits.

You are accused of selling at prices below the compulsory tariff.

Nonsense! All our goods are sold at the marked price.

You are accused of practising hawking, which is illegal.

Medicines may be delivered to the home on condition that they are made up as individual sealed parcels. These conditions are scrupulously observed.

Finally, you are accused of competing unfairly with dispensary pharmacies.

You insinuate that we make excessive turnovers at the same time that you assert we are selling less dear than elsewhere. In fact, our opponents are not very sure of the line of conduct they should follow. In certain regions they bring lawsuit after lawsuit against us—which we win regularly, too—and to which we respond with other lawsuits. They also send us inspectors, which we return immediately. In other regions, on the contrary, they demand that we should sign agreements with them. Some come of their own accord to put their dispensary at our disposal, declaring, "I am joining the mutuality. Make me a director."

We do not believe in taking a systematically aggressive attitude. But take care. If we are provoked we shall take up the gauntlet. We claim that pharmacists are responsible for the pharmacy crisis, if there is one. We do not hesitate to assert that the price of specialties is 40 per cent. too dear. And mutualist pharmacists intend to demonstrate this by agreeing to submit to a test; give them permission to set up laboratories and to make their own specialties. The public will be astounded by the result.

The Price of Specialties.

This problem of the price of pharmaceutical specialties is the topic of the day. It is known that the Ministers are seeking ways of solving it. In a recent article we showed that pharmacists were resolved to oppose any arbitrary reduction of their margin of profit. We thought it would be interesting to conclude this rapid survey of the various aspects of pharmacy by requesting the opinion of the manufacturers on this thorny question.

The manufacturers, declared one of them, are chiefly concerned that the operation of the Social Security Scheme should not be criticised before its action can be developed. That is why we oppose the establishment of a system of "a paying third" which, while increasing the consumption of products, would in fact aim a blow at its financial balance.

Should we conclude from this that you approve in advance of the suggested measures for reducing the price of the products?

At the moment it is certainly only a matter of suggestions. At present a specialty is only refunded by Social Security if its price is below that of a magistral preparation (that is, prepared in the dispensary), multi-

plied by the coefficient 1.20. It is proposed to reduce the coefficient in the hope that thus the laboratories will reduce the price of their specialties in order to see them still featured on the list of refundable products.

You expected other measures?

Yes, for this coefficient of 1.20 made all the difference between a specialty and a simple preparation made according to a prescription. To prove this fact it is not necessary to undertake costly laboratory research, nor to go in for long and onerous clinical and physiological tests, nor to achieve an industrial output or fulfil special conditions, nor to foresee a publicity bulletin to announce to the medical world the birth of the new product. It is these various extras, and in particular the important one of research, which would suffer by a reduction of the coefficient of 1.20. Now, without research laboratories the French pharmaceutical industry would quickly become inferior to its European and American rivals. Our exports would be the first thing to suffer the consequences. Then the French market would be invaded by foreign products, and Social Security would have no control over the price of these.

And yet it is claimed that the price of French specialties is too high.

That assertion is quite fantastic. Everyone knows that French specialties are the cheapest in the world. Thus a tube of aspirins, which costs 36 francs in France,

costs 130 francs in Brussels and 150 in Geneva. The price of our antibiotics is always being reduced. Penicillin, which used to cost 2000 francs for 100,000 units in 1946, is now sold for only 95 francs. Aureomycin, which cost 3600 francs in 1950, is now sold for 2600 francs. Besides, in the manufacture of antibiotics one can see the only example in industry in which increased productivity is of most advantage to the consumer.

But the Social Security deficit must be reduced.

We are sure of that. But we think that the only way of bridging this gulf is to go ahead with basic reforms and to control the consumption of products. Any other measure would risk harming our industrial life, whose situation is already not very bright because of the price politics practised by the Government. It must not be forgotten that pharmaceutical specialties are 12 times dearer than they were in 1938, whereas the raw materials which we use have long ago been more than 20 times dearer.

[A pessimistic conclusion, as can be seen. But it is not customary to end an enquiry on a despondent note. And so we thought that it would not be without interest to publish the two following tables, whose figures are taken from a brochure printed on behalf of the Chamber of Manufactures.]

Approximate turnover realised by pharmaceutical laboratories in the course of the last five years.

Sum of exports by the French pharmaceutical industry.]

Costing in Pharmacy

By R. A. Moore, Ph.C., M.P.S., A.I.C.A., A.C.A.A.

From time to time attempts have been made to place the practice of pharmacy on a basis approaching methods employed by manufacturing concerns who manufacture and distribute products.

A general survey of methods and the difficulties which arise from the view-point of cost accounting and that of pharmacy may throw some light on the principles involved in this obscure problem.

Many complications arise in recordings which are incapable of proof, and result in superficial and disjointed forms of memoranda.

At the outset the fact remains, that through any system of costing the figures cannot be imported outside the regular accounting system, and must tie in with those records in order to establish proof of their accuracy.

Two departments in this connection are shop and dispensary.

The shop buys and sells goods in their completed state from outside sources, as well as goods fabricated in an internal department. These finished goods consist of three elements—material used, labour employed, and expense incurred—and are the outcome of prescriptions chiefly, analogous in industry to "bills of material" where the store foreman releases materials on an "order to supply" for a department, process, or job.

These issues may be at lowest price in first out, highest price in first out, or at an average price.

The latter requires a new rate each time a new purchase is made, and the others, matters of policy depending on rising or falling markets.

The three elements are in all goods purchased ready for sale, but are submerged in the vendor's selling costs, and maybe manufactured cost as well. All incoming goods are delivered into store with packing sheets in the usual way, and are entered on cards, if cards are in use. Issues are credited on cards and summaries made for posting so that cards should show balances agreeing with actual stock of any item at any time, as a perpetual inventory.

Cards A - Z will be written up with the opening stock on hand as at the time of installation, and the purchases and issues as they occur. This is a job of some magnitude, and will run into many cards. To control store stocks by posting to one account in the general ledger all transactions passing through would be an impossible job, and for this reason the stores ledger was introduced to control blocks of cards, and thus relieve the general ledger of many accounts and enable control to be exercised under broad headings.

The credits on cards are in turn debited to departments, processes, or jobs, as per requisitions, according to the set-up of accounts raised to control movements to different locations.

Restriction of accounts in the stores ledger will increase the number of accounts in the general ledger to control stocks effectively. Stocks are periodically checked with cards, which should be close to actual stock at any time.

This checking will disclose not only shorts or overs, but also the location, and adjustments are made accordingly.

It is appropriate to charge shop or dispensary with goods or drugs which leave store, or to charge direct to departments from invoices goods purchased for that department, the invoice reaching the cost office for entry later, but when it comes to accounting for materials entering into production by way of prescriptions, difficulties become manifest.

To institute intense analysis to break down the material costs in each prescription for material used in great diversity, often in very small quantities and little intrinsic value, is beyond all reason, and not to be expected from those whose minds are working in other channels. Stock is frequently interchanged between departments, and usually recorded on slips bearing the broad distinction of colour. Many of these finish up in the drug cemetery, and their future use is fortuitous.

Furthermore, clerical work is imposed as legal requirements in the copying of prescriptions, the recording of specified and dangerous drugs, to whom they

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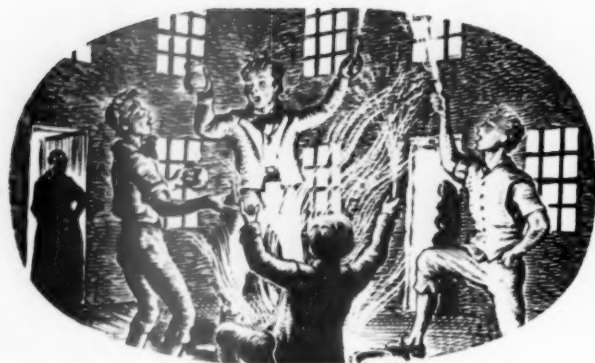
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Although Luke Howard, the founder of Howards was almost certainly too conscientious a Quaker to approve of anything to do with war, there is some evidence that his workpeople celebrated in an appropriate manner Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. In one of the company's boxes of records, labelled 1805, has been discovered a bunch of home-made squibs. This was probably the one and only time that Howards ventured into the firework industry, for even in 1805 they were very well occupied in developing the already established manufacture of such chemicals as Acetates, Bismuth Salts, Citrates, and Ether. Then, Howards were, as they are now, leaders in the manufacture and refinement of pharmaceutical chemicals.

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were supplied, and balances open to inspection. These require careful attention, and this, in a small way, illustrates by example the principles of perpetual inventory.

On the commercial side, the checking of invoices, payment of accounts, recording credit sales and issuing monthly accounts, attending to many business duties, leave little time for intense analysis of the prescriptions in order to ascertain material costs in each job. With proprietary lines this problem does not arise, as the quantity factor admits of deliberate calculation.

Thus, with the application of direct labour and a predetermined rate on an equitable basis, will indicate whether it is better policy to make or purchase from outside sources.

Likewise with galenicals. Idle time is important in this connection by converting what might be indirect expense into productive labour. It then appears that this first item in cost can only be on an industrial basis peculiar to the industry, and in any scheme of uniform costing it is so arranged that methods of cost finding are uniform, with the idea of eliminating individual experiment, and to develop price policies to promote stability.

Material costs are separate items in most schemes and are not made a compound charge with other elements.

Labour is classified as productive, auxiliary, or service, and expense arises from external and internal sources. These divisions are important.

Control is readily established for labour and expense, as the general ledger control account in the cost ledger is posted from actual figures in the general ledger, and the journal distribution must agree with the cost control account in the general ledger.

This is not so with materials, for, although they may be controlled by store accounts, the issues to jobs are in quantities varying with each job, and too numerous to collect and price, apart from the waste in time and money.

A short sketch of distribution of expense may be mentioned. Expense should be distributed specifically where possible. Indirect expense is that common to all business, and as an aid to production, some departmental, some administration charges. Direct labour is that employed in altering material in form, condition, substance, or dimension.

Indirect labour is associated with departments making changes in material, or general, apart from departmental set-up.

Three methods of expense distribution may be considered:—

Prime Cost.—This method assumes that material used will be the same price and quantity. As no two jobs are alike, in that the proportions in prime cost rarely agree, the method is unsound, as some jobs will be overloaded, and some undercharged.

Direct Labour Cost.—This suffers the same drawback, as conditions are not uniform in regard to direct labour costs.

Direct Labour Hours.—Here time and not value is the denominator, and primary and secondary analysis will give close results where skilled hand-work predominates.

No advantage can accrue by breaking out the overhead of a department and leaving it in the air, as the object of creating departments is to ascertain the economical contributions from separate spheres of activity.

In conclusion, it may well be, as all activities culminate in the commercial field, where income is on consolidated revenue basis, expenditure closely accounted for, and the industry on a uniform price policy for stability, that a more expedient, satisfying, and instructive procedure is to work to a short period budget (one year) so as to preserve proper relationship between income and disbursement.

THEY ALL HELPED

Issued last November, the Remembrance Day Call to the People of Australia has had a public reception which has brought it to the status of being a national document. Experts in publicity and public relations say that the amount of public attention it has received is unprecedented for this type of document in Australian history.

Naturally, the question has been asked: "Who has paid for all this?" The reply is that the launching of the Call has been a magnificent piece of unselfish co-operation. Funds for the printing of the Call, postage and office expenses were provided by voluntary subscriptions by a number of public-spirited citizens, who had offered help when the Call was being prepared. All of the rest of the vast flood of publicity came from outside services at no cost to the signatories.

Not a penny was spent on newspaper or radio advertising. The papers—every daily in the capitals and some 60 per cent. of country publications—threw open their columns as part of their contribution toward the success of the Call. The national radio stations and 102 of 104 commercial stations in Australia have consistently given time on the air at their own expense. On the practical side, financial, commercial, advertising and educational experts have given their advice and services in an honorary capacity.

On the moral and spiritual side the clergy, the teaching profession, public men and leaders of thought have brought their influence to bear.

The reason for all this, of course, is that there are many responsible citizens who believe in the message of the Call and the need for its propagation among Australians in this year of hazards.

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Restriction of Pharmacies

A Prelude to Nationalisation?

A thought-provoking article by E. Bemfield, reprinted from "The Retail Chemist" (England).

Pharmacists are seriously urged to view any attempt of placing restrictions on the legitimate practice of their profession as the first but decisive step towards the destruction of individual pharmacy. Only under conditions of free private enterprise and fair competition can British pharmacy give its best. Only under conditions of free private enterprise and fair competition can efficiency be attained and the public be provided with a first-class pharmaceutical service at a most economical cost to the community.

"Quintili Vare, Legiones Redde," cried the mighty Roman Emperor Augustus in desperation when he heard the shattering news of the total annihilation of his three legions, but Quintilius Varus could never hope to give them back. He himself had perished in the ferocious battle of the Teutoburger Wald, where the flower of Rome's military might, lay slain by a barbarous onslaught. How could it be possible that such a grave disaster could ever overtake the war-tired and most famous legionaries in the world? Had not Caius Marius decisively defeated the same Teutonic hordes nearly a century ago near Aix-la-Chapelle? Had not Caesar driven the German chief Ariovistus across the Rhine? Whatever the verdict of military experts on the relative strengths and strategies of Arminius and Varus, the fact remains that the Emperor himself had blundered. Augustus should have realised from the beginning that conditions had changed. He should have tried to preserve the vulnerable frontiers of his far-flung Empire by progressive consolidation rather than by reckless campaigns which almost invariably carry their own seed of destruction.

Unquestionably the resolutions for discussion at the Pharmaceutical Society's Branch Representatives' Meeting in May are put forward with the best intentions—like the fatal decision of the Emperor Augustus to cross the Rhine. In the belief that their implementation would strengthen the economic and social status of pharmacists, the Council of the Society is asked to introduce legislation which would effectively restrict the number of new pharmacies. In addition it is being recommended that a minimum standard for accommodation, service and technical equipment should be introduced, and it appears that the supporters of the resolution must have been largely influenced by the higher social prestige of the profession in certain Continental countries with a system of full or partial limitations. Nevertheless, their proposals are extremely dangerous, and are not in line with practical considerations and actual facts.

The wording of the resolution does not make it clear whether present proprietors would still retain their full right of selling their pharmacies, but it may perhaps be assumed that no change in this direction was anticipated by those who framed the resolution.

The establishment of new pharmacies being restricted, the monetary value of existing businesses would be so enhanced that few individual pharmacists could ever hope to become proprietors. Consequently, most chemists' shops would gradually pass into the hands of the larger multiple concerns or would come under the indirect control of various finance companies.

Pharmacists would become a new "dispossessed class." A considerable number of them would open "drug stores" in direct competition with existing pharmacies, and, in time, qualified and unqualified drug store proprietors alike would stake their claim to sell and dis-

pense any ready-packed speciality and pre-packed medicine.

On the question of minimum standards, is it really suggested that all pharmacies would have to comply with them, and would all pharmacies be closed which cannot find suitable accommodation in their own neighbourhood? If, on the other hand, only new chemists' shops have to answer these requirements, their total number would always be extremely small. In fact, they would be situated almost entirely in the new housing estates and towns, where their owners would labour under an unfair disadvantage as compared with proprietors of old-established pharmacies. But, perhaps, the Government would decide to come to their aid by levying a special pharmacy tax on the income of all businesses above a certain turnover level. This tax could then be used to subsidise "sub-marginal" pharmacies and to create a fund for "eventualities." Profits would tend to be equalised by this tax, and the efficiency of management would suffer.

Similarly, the number of persons employed in pharmacy would increase, for most proprietors would prefer to enjoy additional leisure in order to escape higher taxation; the cost of running a pharmacy would rise, which, in turn, would lead to a demand for higher dispensing fees.

Finally, a Royal Commission on Pharmacy would be set up by the Government, and would recommend the complete nationalisation of the retail side of the profession.

This line of hypothetical argument is by no means based on mere theoretical and highly controversial foundation. Pharmacists who look to the Continent for guidance on policy and express themselves in favour of restriction should examine the position a little more closely. They should attempt to study recent developments in countries where limitation in the number of pharmacies has been in operation for several centuries. A few examples will probably suffice to indicate general trends.

In the Swiss canton of Soleure the 1857 Act restricted the sale of medicines to pharmacies, but a Court decision in 1951 ruled that the Act allows drug stores to sell all specialities, and restricts only the sale of extemporaneously-prepared medicaments to pharmacies. Although specialities were hardly known in Switzerland 100 years ago, and drug stores did not exist at all, the weight of public opinion against the monopoly position of the pharmacist and the continuous endeavours of the drug store proprietors to gain official recognition are largely responsible for the Court's decision. The law was also amended in Zurich to make similar concessions to non-pharmaceutical traders.

In Germany very few drug stores existed towards the end of the last century, and they mainly dealt in paints, household cleaners, soaps, etc., but the restriction in the number of pharmacies (despite an uncontrolled intake into the profession) forced many pharmacists to open drug stores. Today there are about two drug stores to every pharmacy, and drug store proprietors are persistently claiming official recognition by the health authorities.

Norway's Pharmacy Tax has been in operation since 1909, and in Sweden, where the opening of pharmacies was restricted on the basis of one pharmacy to a population of 15,000 to ensure maximum economies, a Royal Commission has recently proposed a system of complete

nationalisation. The Commission found serious over-staffing, and suggests an increase in the number of pharmacies and a decrease in the total staff employed.

Fundamental differences on questions of rota and night duties between proprietor and employee pharmacists in Copenhagen were settled by the authorities selecting 10 out of the 83 chemists' shops in the Danish capital as "Night Pharmacies." The turnover of the appointed pharmacies has greatly increased as a result of this arbitrary decision, and at the expense of the other pharmacies in the town.

Night pharmacies in Denmark—like district pharmacies in Sweden—form a most tempting nucleus for any scheme of nationalisation. Limitation in the number of pharmacies invites nationalisation; discrimination makes it inevitable.

Danish pharmacists also contribute towards a national pharmaceutical fund. Payments are made from the fund to assist small pharmacies financially, to provide control laboratories and to employ pharmaceutical inspectors. Adequate retirement pensions and widows' benefits are guaranteed, and compensations are paid to proprietor pharmacists for the loss of business goodwill from the time when restrictions denied them the right to sell their pharmacies. At first sight these provisions seem fully justified in the circumstances, but our Danish colleagues must feel a little uneasy when they examine the position more closely. A fund of 55 million kroner

is increased still further by tax receipts, although investment income alone covers nearly all necessary expenditure. The imposition of the tax raises the cost of the pharmaceutical service and creates "public money" to pay for any "eventuality" in the future.

These few examples show quite clearly the truly dangerous implications of the resolutions which the Branch representatives will be asked to discuss. Control over the registration of new pharmacies means inevitably full Government control of the whole of pharmacy. But even if the meeting should accept the resolution, and the Council, against all expectations, should try to implement it, it is very doubtful indeed whether it can ever be enforced. The Society would be acting in "restraint of trade," and its "restrictive practices" would be open to the most searching investigations of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Commission, which aims to represent "general legislation to restore freedom of competition in the sector of British industry that remains in private hands."

May British pharmacists be spared the fate of the Emperor Augustus: "Quintilius Varus. Give me back my legions." The Romans paid dearly for their mistake, for the legions never returned. We should profit from the lessons of the past. We should consolidate our position and mend our own defences, but we should never allow ourselves to be led astray by unrealistic rhetoric.

Providing a Late Dispensing Service

By Leonard Stocks.

Provision of after-hour pharmaceutical service has for long been a controversial subject in Australia, and one presenting some difficulties. Acceptance of the 40-hour week has not simplified the problem of the emergency service.

This article, which appeared in the "British and Overseas Pharmacist," of April, 1952, describes an experiment, carried out by a group of Sheffield chemists, which proved to be highly successful.

On January 21, 1952, there was opened in Sheffield a pharmacy which, so far as its sponsors know, is unique. This pharmacy is financed, planned and developed by a community of private chemists for the public service.

The question of a late dispensing service is one that has exercised the minds of many pharmacies in this city ever since the commencement of the Health Service. It has been felt that the private chemist was not giving us full and complete a public service as could reasonably be expected from him; and that to rely on the good offices of resident pharmacists to provide an "after hours" service was not fully meeting the justifiable requirements of the public. This was particularly brought home to the initiators of this scheme when a large public company found it necessary to keep open a special department to try and meet the demand for service after normal closing hours.

It should be explained that in the central area of Sheffield there has been no arrangement for an official rota for late dispensing service, and therefore the late opening by Associated Chemists Ltd. and the company chemists has not interfered with any other arrangements for an out-of-normal-hours service made by the Executive Council. It may be said that approximately two-thirds of the private proprietor pharmacists in business in Sheffield are financially interested in the present communal experiment. The business relationships between all the chemists in the city, whether company, co-operative or private, are most cordial. It would probably be difficult to find another area where the friendly feeling between all the pharmacists practising in it is so noticeable.

Early in 1951 it was felt that the time had come for the private chemist to make a move in the direction of providing a late dispensing service; and to this end the matter was brought before a meeting of all the independent proprietors in Sheffield. The reaction was favourable, and a small committee was empowered to investigate the possibility of action being taken.

Finding the Premises.

While this was taking place it became known that a desirable property was in the market, and a quick inspection revealed its suitability. In consequence a firm offer to purchase was made. At a second meeting called shortly after this those present were asked if they wished to proceed with the project, and if they were prepared to agree to the formation and financing of a company. The idea was enthusiastically and unanimously accepted. A company with a capital of £15,000 was proposed, and the sum of £8000 was promised at the meeting. £5000 was subscribed within two days, and with the balance required quickly following, the necessary steps were taken to form a company under the name of Associated Chemists (Wicker) Ltd., the address being 61 The Wicker, Sheffield. The company was incorporated on June 25, 1951, and the preparation of the premises for business was commenced.

Securing Ministry of Works licences for the necessary work of altering and adapting the premises quickly proved a stumbling block, and many weary weeks of letter writing passed before the necessary permits were available. One interesting point emerged from the many interviews with authority when it was stated that a new shop front could be installed, but no licence had been issued for new fronts for over six months. On

pointing out several new shops in the vicinity, and asking how these came into being, the astonishing answer was received that these fronts were not new, but reconstructed—a distinction with a difference.

The work of shop fitting was entrusted to Messrs. Myers, of Old street, London, who have carried out the ideas of the Directors according to the plan to make a worth-while, easily-run, efficient dispensary within the price limits decided upon. The main work in the shop is carried out in natural polished walnut, and in the dispensary natural "Idigbo".

The main idea of the formulators of this scheme was to provide a late-night dispensing service, but naturally the retail portion of the venture has been developed to meet the demand for medical and surgical sundries and household requisites. There is a large general pharmaceutical trade, and this is increasing. Probably two-fifths of the pharmacy's business is carried on at the counter and three-fifths in the dispensary at a very rough estimate.

The dispensary is well equipped to carry out the main idea that there should be a minimum waiting period for the public. To this end ample shelving accommodation was provided, with continuous counter space, and a double dispensary counter as an island fitment arranged so that two dispensers could work side by side, each with his own set of the commonly-used galenicals. The remainder of the galenicals are arranged immediately behind the two dispensers in such a way that the need for walking is reduced to a minimum. Service shelving is provided to house all proprietary ethical preparations in Winchester quantities. Smaller packs of ethicals are housed in shallow cupboard, and the shallow cupboard idea is continued for D.D.A., Schedule IV, penicillin and similar preparations. The tablet stock for immediate use is housed in a special Myers Unit with sliding shelving, which provides the maximum foot-board of shelving in a minimum of space. Deep cupboard are provided under the whole of the continuous counter space.

Providing the Service.

The main stock room is in the basement, and is equal in size to the area of shop and dispensary together. This is filled with steel shelving, which makes for easy and visible stock keeping. In addition to the ground floor and basement at present in use two other floors are available.

The shop is open for service from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. each week day and from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. each Sunday. The qualified staff of some of the members of the company supplement the permanent staff by working an additional duty after their own shops are closed, but it is hoped in time to cover the whole of the service with the permanent staff. Whilst a steady stream of prescriptions flows in throughout the day, the demand is heaviest between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., during which hours probably 75 per cent. of the day's dispensing work is done.

There is no half-day closing during the week. During the day there is always one qualified pharmacist in attendance to give service, one relieving another, with two or three unqualified assistants: For evening work after 6 p.m. there are several pharmacists available in Sheffield, who from the nature of their work can give assistance in the evening, and from these and from the qualified staff of members a rota has been formed providing two qualified men on duty each evening when required.

The promoters of this scheme are satisfied that the number of prescriptions which are now dealt with at this communal pharmacy fully justifies this pioneer undertaking.

As far as is known this is the first effort of this character to prove that the private chemists are willing and able to provide all the pharmaceutical services that can reasonably be required by the public, and to show that to establish a pharmaceutical service in any possible future Health Centre would be quite unnecessary.

The Directors look forward with confidence to the continued success of their experiment in providing a comprehensive and satisfactory pharmaceutical service during all reasonable hours for the people of Sheffield.

WOULD YOU HELP RAGGLES?

By Bertram Jebb

O. Henry, the brilliant American short story writer, once wrote a tale about a tramp called Raggles.

After years of begging and hitch-hiking through the lesser parts of the United States, Raggles found his way to the city of New York. There his pleas for alms met with stony heartlessness. The populace passed him by, unheeding and regardless, as though not aware of his existence.

Disillusioned and disheartened, Raggles started to cross the street. There was a blast, a roar, a hissing and a crash as something struck him and hurled him over and over six yards from where he had been.

When Raggles opened his eyes, a hand as soft as a petal was smoothing his brow. It was that of an exquisitely dressed woman who had ignored him a few seconds before. An elderly gentleman, who personified the city's wealth and ripeness, was fanning him with a hat. A newsboy had placed a paper beneath him. From a nearby cafe a tough guy came hurrying with a glass of crimson fluid that suggested delightful possibilities. Two flattering and gorgeous policemen got into the circle and pressed back an overplus of samaritans.

The title of that story was "The Making of a New Yorker." From that day on Raggles was the New Yorker.

He had learned one lesson—that the human spirit and community sense do not always show on the surface. But both are supremely important.

Every one of us is dependent on those about him for everything from the food he eats to the highest spiritual contacts. Nobody can be self-contained in the modern community. Indeed, it is by his standard of conduct and his recognition of his debt to the community that a man's worth as a citizen is measured.

Here in Australia there is sometimes a tendency to overlook this supremely important fact. Many of us are prepared to take all we can from our fellow men and give as little as possible back. There are others who think that it is positively a virtue to take no part or interest in public affairs. They are content to leave the hard and responsible jobs of caring for the community's welfare to someone else. To them, inefficiency, corruption, discord, danger from abroad, and crime are the other fellow's worry.

Sometimes, of course, an overpowering outside factor brings such people out of their apathy and thoughtlessness. The Japanese threat to Australia after the fall of Singapore in February, 1942, was a case in point. Then, the rallying cry was strong, and the people rallied, some through fear, most because it was a call to their courage.

It was a parallel, many times magnified, of the story about Raggles. In normal times the Australian community spirit was ignored, like the cagging hobo. The populace, intent on its own affairs, was unheeding and regardless. But when disaster threatened, they reacted as did the representative New Yorkers when Raggles was involved in a street accident.

But that was in 1942. What of today? The dangers which threaten Australia are as real in their way as were the dangers in war. They are again regarded by many people with apathy and disinterest. Who, for instance, bothers to study the ugly situation in Indonesia, our next door neighbour?

Last November, a group of public men issued a Remembrance Day "Call to the People of Australia." In this they appealed to Australians to "defend the community." That "Call" was made only after much anxious thought. Australia may lose much by apathy and lack of understanding.

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**Chemists
Only**



**Chemists
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The Women Pharmacists' Page

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson.

Most of us in the south are thinking with envy of our more fortunate fellow pharmacists up north and in the west. With Melbourne weather becoming increasingly colder and wetter it is hard to believe that in less than a day's trip by plane, one could be under bright blue skies and in warm sunshine.

THE WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

The 18th annual meeting of the Women Pharmacists' Association of Victoria was held at the College of Pharmacy on May 8, at 8 p.m., and was presided over by Mrs. Thompson, Acting President. There was quite a good attendance, including a few country members, and some newly-qualified women pharmacists, to whom Mrs. Thompson gave a special welcome. The Acting President then gave a summary of the year's activities, and thanked the committee, and especially the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, for their support and help.

In lieu of the President's address, and her own report, the Hon. Secretary, Miss Smalley, read a letter from England, from Miss Witt, as follows:—

"Dear Fellow Members,

"Wouldn't I love to drop in on you this evening and greet you all in the appropriate manner. But 10,000 miles approximately is a bit too far to fly to attend an evening meeting.

"However, with this note I send greetings to you all, and hope you have a lively meeting and elect an enthusiastic committee.

"From what I have heard, the 1951-2 committee, with the exception of myself, did a grand job; raising money for various purposes; setting in motion at the Brisbane Conference the machinery necessary for the formation of a Women Pharmacists' Association of Australia (this may not be the title envisaged); arranging a most successful dinner in honour of Mrs. Meldrum; holding a Christmas Party, which was a great success; and commencing a Women's Page in the 'A.J.P.'"

"May I thank Miss Anderson here for her interest in this matter. I have seen the January issue of the 'A.J.P.' and think she has tackled the job splendidly.

"I doubt if I have remembered all the achievements of the W.P.A.V. during the past 12 months, but even the above show that the committee has been a most active one, and the past year a most successful one. I am very proud of our committee.

"My special thanks are due to the Acting President, Mrs. Thompson, and to Miss Smalley, Miss MacGillivray, and Miss Caird, who have had the most arduous jobs.

"To Mrs. Thompson I shall always be indebted for the splendid manner in which she took over my responsibilities at such short notice.

"I wish to thank most sincerely all the members of the committee for the grand way in which they have furthered the interests of the Association while I have been away.

"As I do not wish to take up much of your time tonight I shall write 'Au Revoir.' Kindest regards and good wishes to you all."

Miss Smalley then endorsed Miss Witt's plea for furthering the interests of the Women Pharmacists' Association, and announced with pleasure that our Association now had the record number of 102 financial members.

A very satisfactory balance sheet was submitted by the Treasurer, Miss MacGillivray, who also acts as Ticket Secretary for the Theatre Parties, and to whom we extend our sincerest thanks for all her efforts. The annual donation made to the Flying Doctor Service

as a result of these functions, this year reached the amount of £32/11/-, and is our record so far.

The following members were elected to the committee: Mesdames Thompson, Carter, Doyle, Misses Witt, MacGillivray, Smalley, Bevan, Cornu, Caird, Hicks, Keogh, Anderson. Office-bearers will be elected by the committee at the next meeting.

Miss Maskell (abroad), Miss Bethel (going abroad) and Mrs. Pennicott (personal reasons), retired from the committee, and were thanked by the Acting President for their past co-operation.

Mrs. Thompson, the delegate to the National Council of Women, gave a brief summary of this year's meetings, and stressed the importance of being affiliated with such a body.

Delegates for the ensuing year to the National Council of Women are Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Moorhead. Proxies: Mrs. T. Doyle and Miss V. Kelly.

At the conclusion of business, supper was served in the museum by the committee.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

The next meeting of the Association will be held in Science House, Gloucester Street, Sydney, on Wednesday, July 9, at 8 p.m.

Our speaker at this meeting will be the almoner from the Rachel Forster Hospital for Women and Children.

The theatre party to "Lohengrin," at the Tivoli Theatre, was a great success owing to the efforts of our Social Secretary, Miss Sally Mackay. Bookings to the Cabaret Dance at the Coronet Ballroom, on Thursday, June 19, may be made with Miss Mackay (XB 1935).

Owing to the resignation of our President, Mrs. J. Voss, and Vice-President, Mrs. A. Curry, a change has been made in the committee of the Association. The office-bearers are as follows:—

President: Mrs. E. Bennett.

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. M. Ibbotson and Miss Wunsch.

Secretary: Miss J. Latham.

Treasurer: Miss M. Sweeney.

Social Secretary: Miss S. Mackay.

Committee: Miss P. Jones, Miss E. Palmi, and Miss M. Polson.

Miss E. Wunsch is to be congratulated on the able way she has conducted the last four meetings of the Association. Miss Wunsch leaves for England at the end of the year and will be greatly missed by the committee.

At the meeting held on May 14, Dr. Helmes, who is attached to the Repatriation General Hospital, Concord, and also the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in Australia, gave us a talk on the treatment of tuberculosis and the work of the association.

Main Points of Interest in Dr. Helmes' Talk.

The National Association for Prevention of Tuberculosis in Australia, N.A.P.T.A., was formed in Perth in 1948, and now has branches in all capital cities of Australia.

The N.A.P.T. is a kindred organisation in England. Branches in Scandinavia are mainly private organisations, financed by private funds and donations. The sale of seals (similar to the Christmas Seal Campaign in Australia) and telegrams for special occasions with appropriate pictures, help to finance the organisation.

The tubercle bacillus was discovered in 1882 by Koch. With the discovery it was thought that the

war against T.B. was almost won. But this was not the case.

The Mantoux Test.

At the age of—

5 years	2% - 5% positive mantoux
25-30 years	20% - 25% positive mantoux
50 years and over	50% - 60% positive mantoux

A positive mantoux shows that a person has come into contact with the disease, but has successfully overcome it. Only a small proportion of people with a positive mantoux develop the disease.

The Lubuk disaster, which resulted from an attempt to immunise by oral vaccine, showed that people have definite defences against the disease. The organisms in the vaccine used were not properly killed, 30-40 per cent. developed the disease—some died—while 60 per cent. recovered. This is proof that the human race is not 100 per cent. susceptible.

The Three Chief Bacilli.

1. Human — Pulmonary.
2. Bovine — Bone and joint.
3. Avian — Birds.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis spread by droplet infection. The bacillus lives in house dust, but is killed by sunlight in two minutes. Bovine Tuberculosis is spread by milk.

The development of tuberculosis is more rapid in war-time. Certain countries and families are more susceptible to the disease, while poor nutrition, physical and mental stress, overcrowding, economic conditions, are all factors in the spreading of the disease. People suffering from diabetes are especially prone to T.B.

In 1947 a dramatically effective remedy was discovered by Waxman—Streptomycin. At first 2-3 gms. were given daily, but it was found that because of its toxic effects the treatment could not be carried out indefinitely.

Vestibular reaction (swaying reaction), dermatitis, and permanent deafness are some effects of the drug. After prolonged use the organisms become resistant to the drug, and it no longer has any effect on the disease.

It was observed in Scandinavia that tuberculosis patients treated with Streptomycin, suffering from rheumatism and other rheumatic conditions necessitating treatment with Salicylate of Soda did better than patients not taking the Salicylate of Soda.

P.A.S. Para amino salicylic acid, was then introduced, the chief use being to lessen the sensitivity to Streptomycin.

The latest treatment for tuberculosis to be used in Australia is the isomer of Nicotinic Acid. The treatment is only in its infancy, but should prove an exciting development in the treatment of the disease.

Mrs. Webber proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Helmes, and Miss M. Sweeney presented a cheque for £5/5/- for the N.A.P.T.A.

THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF QUEENSLAND.

In any organisation it is very pleasing to see the Younger Set come forward to entertain the members. The Women Pharmacists were no exception, when, on April 17, in the Lyceum Club, the students entertained with musical, vocal and art of speech items.

The evening was the product of a considerable amount of thought, and the arrangement of the programme showed the interest taken by the students. It was very much enjoyed by all present, and we hope it will be repeated.

Mrs. Blanchard moved a vote of thanks to the students.

A lecture on Art and Sculpture was arranged for the May meeting.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN WOMEN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The new committee for 1952 held its first meeting for the year at the home of the President, Mrs. Lucraft, on May 5.

After discussion, it was decided that as the majority of members were able to attend the lecture series presented by the Pharmaceutical Society of W.A., this year we would concentrate more on the social aspect in order that we might raise some funds for a deserving cause.

The suggested programme for the year provided a happy blend of social functions alternated with excursions of interesting and educational nature.

The May meeting, held at Mrs. Lucraft's home, on May 19, took the form of a social evening and musical. A presentation was made to our former President, Mrs. H. M. Lyons, and the Hon. Sec., Miss Vida Garcia, who retired from office this year after serving in these positions for many years past.

THE NEW RAT POISON.

The production in Britain of a new compound for destroying rats was announced in a statement for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, dated February 18. Warfarin (3(alpha phenyl-beta-acetylenyl)-4-hydroxy-coumarin), the compound referred to, is an anticoagulant related to dicoumarol. It causes death painlessly by internal haemorrhage. The possibility of using a blood-anticoagulant as rodenticide was discovered by workers of Ward, Blenkinsop & Co. Ltd., from whom the Director of Infestation Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, took up the work about four years ago, Messrs. Ward, Blenkinsop supplying the dicoumarol. It was found that the concentration of dicoumarol required in the food bait seemed to make it unpalatable so that some of the rats avoided the baits. American workers took up the idea of the use of an anticoagulant, and found that a related compound (the product now called warfarin) could be used in a much lower concentration, without, apparently being unpalatable in the food-bait. Work was later done on the compound in Britain.

The Ministry recommends the use of warfarin in two strengths (0.005 per cent. against common rats, and 0.025 per cent. where ship rats or mice are present). The manufacturers are required by the Ministry to produce warfarin in a master-mix containing (a) 0.1 per cent. and (b) 0.5 per cent. respectively by weight of warfarin in fine oatmeal or other approved material (to facilitate even distribution of poison in the final bait preparation, which is made by adding one part of the master-mix to nineteen of medium oatmeal or other approved material). The baits should remain in position for a number of days without disturbance, and must therefore be laid in suitable containers to prevent scatter and loss. "In the front rank in the art of rat-killing," the Ministry statement adds, "it appears to be a painless killer of rats and mice, and could only be regarded in its low concentration as harmful to people and livestock if taken repeatedly and in quantity over a number of successive days. That is most unlikely to happen with prudent baiting." There seems no need to alternate warfarin with other poison baits, except where warfarin, for some local reason, fails. Warfarin is not at present recommended for use in sewers. It is now being produced to the Ministry's specification by several makers.

—"Chemist and Druggist."

NEW LINE!

The following has been noted in the house circular of a Melbourne wholesale firm:—

"Wincarnis—No. 1, No. 2.

Constant detailing of this popular cream makes it a steady seller throughout Victoria."



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3. To collect the finished prints.



—hence, three opportunities to sell more goods and build up store traffic.

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More than ever before, Tek is the toothbrush of popular demand. The reason—Tek is now available in styles of 3-Row Medium or Hard; 2-Row Professional and Junior plus the choice of Tek in the Double Pack and the recent addition of Tek with NATURAL bristles.

National press and radio advertising tell your customers to choose their individual style of Tek from you. Make sure that their business comes straight to your cash register by displaying all styles of Tek prominently.

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Pharmaceutical Benefits Act

Prices for Items Recently Added

The following prices for items recently added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits List are given in Circular No. 21 dated May, 1952:—

Item 4	Adrenalin Tartrate, 1 in 1000, 30 cc. vial (Boots)	5/4 for 1
Item 11	Aureomycin Caps., 50 mg. cap., 25 capsules	32/8 for 25
Item 65	Heparin, 25,000 U. per cc., 5 cc. vial (Evans, Boots)	241/8 for 1
Item 99	Morph. 1/6 with Atropine 1/150 per cc., 10 cc. vial (P.D. & Co.)	3/4 for 1
Item 124B	Phenobarbitone, 3 gr. per 1.5 cc., 1.5 cc. amp. (Evans)	7/9 for 6
Item 131A	Aquacillin, 400,000 U. per cc., 10 cc. vial (Faulding)	44/- for 1
Item 133	Forticil, 600,000 U. per cc., 1 cc. amp. (Faulding)	11/- for 1

Addition to the List.

The following preparation has also to be added to the list of Pharmaceutical Benefits:—

Item 131A	Aquacillin, 400,000 U. per cc. amp.	8/- for 1 Max. 6
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P.M.S.

Phenobarbitone and Phenobarbitone Sodium Tablets—Maximum Quantities and Repeats.

The maximum quantity of Phenobarbitone and Phenobarbitone Sodium Tablets that may be prescribed and supplied on a P.M.S. prescription has been increased to:—

- 1 gr. tablets, max. 100, 1 repeat.
- 1 gr. tablets, max. 25, 1 repeat.

Rates for P.M.S.

Circular No. 21 also gives Unit Drug Container Prices for the P.M.S. for the six months ended December 31, 1951, and also for the quarter ending March, 1952. These are published hereunder:—

Unit Drug Container Prices.

Group	Six Months ending Dec. 31, 1951.	First Quarter (Jan.-March) 1952.	Group	Six Months ending Dec. 31, 1951.	First Quarter (Jan.-March) 1952.
A	4.3d.	4.3d.	J	9.5d.	9.7d.
B	13.4d.	13.6d.	K	14.5d.	14.8d.
C	30.3d.	30.8d.	L	2.5d.	2.6d.
D	3.9d.	4.0d.	M	3.2d.	3.3d.
E	15.5d.	15.9d.	N	4.7d.	4.7d.
F	80.3d.	81.6d.	O	2.3d.	2.4d.
G	11.6d.	11.8d.	Q	14.5d.	14.9d.
H	8.0d.	8.2d.	R	17.7d.	18.0d.

Pharmaceutical Benefits for Pensioners.

Second Quarter 1952 (April-June).

Average Unit Drug Container Prices and Dispensing Fees.

The following schedule shows the prices and dispensing fees to be claimed for all Pharmaceutical Benefits for Pensioners dispensed and supplied during the months of April, May and June, 1952.

The average unit drug and container prices in all cases excepting Groups M, N and O is for an ounce. In Groups M, N and O the unit is one powder, one capsule, etc.

Eye ointments, not extemporaneously prepared, are to be claimed for within Group S and not Group P, the reason being that virtually all eye ointments are packed by the manufacturers, and are not extemporaneously prepared. The few that are extemporaneously prepared are to be claimed for at the unit price for Group B.

The Schedule.

Group	Drug Container Prices	Disp. Fees	Group	Drug Container Prices	Disp. Fees
A	4.6d.	23d.	K	15.6d.	22d.
B	14.4d.	25d.	L	2.8d.	22d.
C	32.5d.	22d.	M	3.5d.	23d.
D	4.2d.	22d.	N	5.0d.	23d.
E	16.9d.	22d.	O	2.5d.	36d.
F	86.0d.	22d.	Q	15.8d.	25d.
G	12.5d.	22d.	R	19.0d.	22d.
H	8.7d.	23d.	S	{ Ampoules	17d.
J	10.3d.	23d.		{ Tablets	18d.

Tally Sheet.

The Summary is to be completed showing in each group the total number of ounces and ounce rate, and the total number of prescriptions and dispensing fee rate. The grand total is then to be transferred to the claim form (PH/A1).

Example of Summary, showing claim containing eight only 8-oz. mixtures.

Summary.

Drug and Container Cost			Dispensing Fees	
Group	No. ozs.	Oz. Rate	No. scripts	Rate
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
A	64	4.6	1 4 6	8
B			23d.	0 15 4

It is requested that all claims be submitted each month showing the Tally Sheet completed with the correct amount claimed.

Readers' Views

To the Editor.

These columns are open for the free discussion of any matter of general interest to Pharmacists. Letters under a nom de plume may be published, but each correspondent must furnish his name and address as an evidence of good faith. It must be distinctly understood that the opinions expressed by our correspondents are not necessarily endorsed editorially.

THE RETURN FROM P.B.A. AND P.M.S. DISPENSING

Sir,—It is becoming apparent that the inherent dangers of low mass fees always feared by some pharmacists, a fear now being gradually shared by many who were opposed to the minority of us (who always opposed the adoption of the P.B.A. scheme and the ancillary services such as the P.M.S.) are becoming more obvious.

For years the Federal Guild has stated that no pharmacy can carry on with a smaller profit than 27½ per cent., and yet the latest figures available show that the profit on P.B.A. is 19 per cent. Not all the glib explanations of the negotiators can explain this away, especially when the time lag between payments alleged by many chemists (of whom I am not one) is taken into consideration.

The position regarding the P.M.S. is much worse—nothing short of scandalous. About May of last year Mr. Dallimore, the acting Federal President of the Guild, advised everyone to support the scheme, and agreed to the ridiculous figure of 4/- per script payment, which small figure may easily become the figure the Government will insist upon.

After five years or more we find ourselves involved in alleged contracts with the Federal Government without legal standing or effect, and this despite Federal negotiators, Public Relations Secretariats, statistical research bureau and the rest. A mighty labouring has delivered a mouse, and one most timid.

And after all sorts of promises and pleas of "Trust us! Trust us!" the culminating straw was the misleading circular sent out recently under the signature of the Federal President, Mr. Eric Scott, in which he pleaded that the fact that £9,000,000 of P.B.A. business was directed towards 3000 chemists was an excellent reason for supporting the raising of Guild fees to £10/10/-.

Statistics are always dangerous and misleading, and the tone of the circular suggested that this was new business, whereas the truth is that without P.E.A. this figure would have been worth nearer £11,250,000, and been of greater benefit to the smaller pharmacist. Let the Guild supply a truer picture of the amounts really obtained by showing the number of chemists who get a turnover of £750 or less a year out of it (remembering that at least 5 per cent. of scripts are for insulin, for which we receive no fee), £750 to £1250—and at £500 intervals till we see how many chemists really get £3000 or more.

All pharmacy would get a rude shock if these figures were published, but it was never the way of propagandists to supply analytical pictures to enable a scheme to be properly judged; but to blind members with a fearsome mass of figures which mean exactly nothing. Even at this late stage it should be possible for us to assert that we still have pride in being individuals by demanding a fair deal from the Government.

I conclude by again warning all my colleagues that despite all the optimism shared by those who claim

to be our leaders, we are in for a series of rude shocks if drastic action is not taken.—Yours sincerely,

MAURICE SUPER, J.P., F.P.S.
Lang Lang, Viv., 12/5/52.

Mr. Scott's Rejoinder.

Mr. Eric Scott, Federal President of the Guild, comments as follows upon Mr. Super's letter:

Apparently I am not intelligent enough to understand what Mr. Super means in his opening paragraph by "the inherent danger of low mass fees." If he means by this that the Government contract work is being done at a cut dispensing rate, it is wise to remind him that the average dispensing rate on our contract work for the Government is no less than our private work over the whole of Australia.

The terms for P.B.A. work were endorsed by mass meetings of chemists all over Australia, and events have proved that the overwhelming majority of chemists are satisfied. The service is a voluntary one; no chemist is forced to participate.

The Federal Council recommended a higher annual subscription to pay for the cost of expanding Guild services which are essential if the Guild is to continue to function effectively. The Guild's virile outlook and efficient handling of problems for its members has been a major factor in bringing them increased turnovers. The great thing about the Guild is that its organisation has kept pace with major events in fast-changing times. It has followed a planned course, to the great benefit of its members.

To be of any value when published or quoted, figures must be correct. The Guild has access to official statistics and research bulletins, and these were the basis of the figures quoted in my circular about the proposed fee. Understandably they differ from the figures of Mr. Super's imagination.

We agree entirely with Mr. Super that no pharmacy can carry on with a smaller gross profit than 27½ per cent. An official survey of P.B.A. for 1951 discloses a gross profit of 38 per cent. When an account is presented correctly to the Department it is paid immediately. Inquiries at the Health Department reveal no lag.

It cannot be disputed that the operation of P.B.A. (on the terms and conditions gained for the Guild by the very men whom Mr. Super tries to vilify) has meant a big increase in pharmacy turnovers. This applies in every State. Official surveys prove that pharmacy is more prosperous now than ever in its history. If bad times come, the steady return from our Government dispensing contracts will be a stabilising factor in sharp contrast to the experience of other depression days.

The average Guild member spontaneously acknowledges the debt he owes to those who helped our organisation to consolidate its strength. Unlike Mr. Super, the average Guild member acclaims the foresight of those who established the Guild organisation which Mr. Super tries to belittle. I shall be very surprised if his latest outburst attracts any more members to his banner than he ever did at the Guild meetings which he has addressed down the years. He has never accepted the principle of majority rule. He has never escaped the results of his own loose thinking. Experience helps most men to avoid making fools of themselves again.

PRACTICAL TRAINING IN INDUSTRY AND INSTRUCTIONS IN THE HUMANITIES FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TAKING TECHNICAL COURSES

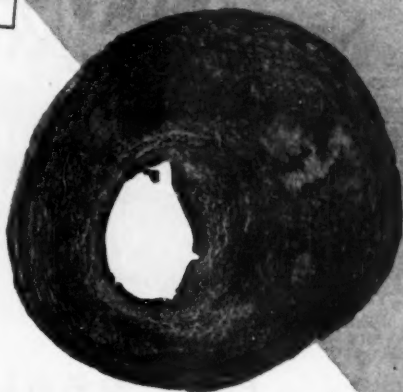
Sir,—The meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science which is to be held in Sydney in August next provides an excellent opportunity for those who will be attending the meetings of Section "O" under the Presidency of Mr. N. Manning, of Victoria, to investigate the newer type of courses required

Impaired lipid metabolism . . .

ATHEROSCLEROSIS

— LIKE RUST IN PIPES —

causes arterial deterioration



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most choline preparations previously employed and its lipotropic action is further enhanced by the synergistic action of inositol.

WYCHOL's delicious raspberry-like flavour invites the co-operation of the patient, assuring adequate dosage.

WYCHOL Syrup of Choline and Inositol, Wyeth.
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Impaired Cholesterol Metabolism. Liver Disease. Hyperliposis associated with diabetes, nephrosis, hypothyroidism, and other diseases.

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Tubes of 25. Bottles of 100 and 500.

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for degrees in the New South Wales University of Technology.

I suggest that those who are interested in the training and education of students in Pharmacy should obtain a copy of the first annual report and a copy of the calendar of this University. The following points are of particular interest:—

The Annual Report.

P. 5: "In approving the structure of these courses (chemistry and engineering) the Development Council gave expression to two principles which were later to be confirmed as essentials in all undergraduate courses of the University, namely the inclusion of instruction in the humanities and the requirement of a specified period of practical training in industry as integral parts of each course."

P. 8: "A special feature of undergraduate courses is the extensive practical training in industry which supplements lectures and laboratory work at the University. Students in most courses are required to attend for six months at the University and to spend five months gaining practical experience in industry."

P. 9: "The teaching of humanities in technical courses at tertiary level is generally agreed to be a desirable trend in educational practice. . . . Thus a further feature of undergraduate training is the inclusion in all courses of the subjects of language and literature, economics, history and psychology. . . . The Council determined that six to ten per cent. of total curriculum time be devoted to these or other subjects from the field of the humanities."

P. 11: "It has been a major point of University policy to establish and maintain as close a link with industry as possible in order that the courses provided may meet industrial needs."

The Calendar.

Pp. 65-66: Degree Course in Applied Chemistry. "The courses in Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering are closely linked with practical training in industry. They are arranged so that two years in the middle of the courses are spent in combined academic study and works practice. In order to ensure sufficient time for study and reading, a maximum of two evenings per week is stipulated, the remainder of the study time each week being spread over two half days."

First year: 34 weeks' course (full time 28 hours per week).

Second and third years: 34 weeks of two half days and two evenings per week (14-15 hours per week).

Fourth year: 34 weeks' course (full time 29 hours per week).

Pp. 167-173: Humanities.

Three groups of subjects are set out on these pages. The following sequences are provided and spread out over the four years of study:—

G 1 Scientific Method	1st year
G 2 History of Science and Technology	2nd year
G 3 Contemporary Civilisation	3rd year
G 4 Contemporary Civilisation	4th year
G 10 Language and Literature	1st year
G 11 Language and Literature	2nd year
G 12 Language and Literature	3rd year
G 13 Language and Literature	4th year
G 20 Human Relations	2nd year
G 21 Human Relations	3rd year
G 22 Human Relations	4th year

The lecture time for 1st, 3rd and 4th year subjects is one hour per week. This is increased to two hours per week for the three 2nd year subjects.

Readers will note that this is recognition at tertiary level of degrees of a scientific character which include controlled practical experience in industry and the study of the mentality of human beings in the present social structure.

Does the system point the way out of the dilemma which most of us are finding in plans for the training of students in Pharmacy?—Yours, etc.,

E. F. LIPSHAM.

Adelaide, May 20, 1952.

PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS AND NATIONAL TRAINING

Sir,—In the report of the Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, published in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," April, 1952, the subject of National Service Training was brought up by Mr. F. N. Lee, who linked it with the possible future manpower controls in pharmacy.

It is to be regretted that the reply of Mr. R. H. Borowski, Secretary of the Victorian Chemists Sub-Branch of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A., was not printed in your report of this meeting.

This Sub-Branch of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A., representing as it does, returned servicemen and pharmacists, deprecates the suggestion that preferential consideration be given to pharmacy students under the National Service Training Scheme. As it has been stressed by General Sir Horace Robertson that young men of National Service Training age are loth to accept their responsibilities, we feel that pharmacy students should accept their responsibilities without cavil, and in this regard it ill behoves official pharmacy to take any steps that would limit the basic training needed by men called up under the National Service Training Scheme.—Yours, etc.,

L. B. ALLEN,

President, Victorian Chemists' Sub-Branch
R.S.S.A.I.L.A.

Melbourne, 22/5/52.

YOUNG MEN WANTED FOR PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCILS

Sir,—Having read with keen interest the results of the elections of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W., I feel that I, too, would like to make a statement about the result of the poll.

The results are as most expected, but I feel that the divergence of opinions and statements by Council members could well do with a comment. It is only a few years since I represented pharmacy students at the Council table of the Pharmaceutical Society, and I full well remember the statements of those men who have recently been re-elected.

As a student listening to the President's address to students and in later years addressing the students as representative of the Sydney University Pharmaceutical Association, I now wish to draw my point.

Those men, if I may use the hackneyed term, harangued the plebs to strive always to uphold the status of pharmacy and to be willing at all times to lend a hand in the various phases of this administration, be it the Pharmacy Board, the Guild or the Society. The poll indeed shows that the torch of pharmacy is being withheld from its younger school of thought. Mr. Cashen indeed needs no introduction for his name is well known throughout official pharmacy in Australia, and he has only recently represented Australia in England and on the Continent. Surely his knowledge and education—for they say that travelling is education—warrants some deep thought by the members who refused to consider his worthiness for the position at the Council table of the Pharmaceutical Society.

The election in itself displays the complete lack of interest which the great majority of pharmacists take in the affairs of their profession. The figure of 25 per cent. represents approximately all those who were interested enough to record their votes.

Surely then, Mr. Editor, it is apparent that the younger school of thought were indeed unfortunate mainly because of the lack of young members of the Society who are registered and entitled to vote, for I feel sure that students are vitally interested in their Society, more so than the older generation because the great number who did not vote were not interested and, I venture to say, belonged to the older school of thought. The remedy, Mr. Editor, therefore lies in making both new and old members of the Society vitally interested in every sphere of this work and interested in the status of pharmacy as a whole.

I do not propose at this stage to suggest how this is to be done or what amendments should be made to the Articles of Association of the Society, but suggest that perhaps pharmacy could take a lesson from the methods employed by trade unionism of today for "Unity is Strength."—Yours, etc.,
Condobolin, N.S.W.
May 21, 1952.

D. J. EVANS.

New Books

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CODEX, 1949, SUPPLEMENT, 1952

The B.P.C. Supplement, published in February, 1952, has the same general set-up as the Codex, with its several sections from General Monographs to Formulary.

Of the new monographs (Part I) many relate to substances which made their official debut in the B.P. Addendum, 1951. These include such drugs as Aethinyl Oestradiol, Isoprenaline Sulphate, Mepyramine Maleate, Methacholine Chloride, Promethazine, Quinalbarbitone and several of the antibiotics. In addition to these, some 22 new monographs refer to drugs which have not yet acquired B.P. status, but, on present clinical evidence, appear to have established themselves in their various therapeutic spheres.

Of these, some interesting ones for local application are *Alumini Pulvis*, comprising metallic aluminium in fine flakes. This, incorporated with zinc oxide into a paste with liquid paraffin (*Pasta Aluminii Co.*), is applied to the skin as a protective against proteolytic and irritant discharges. *Gamma Benzene Hexachloride*, hitherto known as *Lindane* (an erstwhile approved name now withdrawn) is added as an insecticide and larvicide—used locally in the form of cream, emulsion or simple solution. Two absorbable haemostatics for local application are *Oxidised Cellulose*, a polyanhydroglucuronic acid, prepared by the nitrogen dioxide oxidation of surgical gauze, and *Absorbable Gelatin Sponge*, a sterile formaldehyde-gelatin foam.

Among many new drugs already in wide current use, the following are subjects of new monographs: *Amidone Hydrochloride* (*Methadone*, *Physeptone*) representing a newer group having an analgesic activity comparable with that of morphine; *Vitamin B12*, which loses some of the crispness of its appeal under the heptasyllabic sequipedalianism of its now approved name, *Cyanocobalamin*; *Dexamphetamine*, the less active dextro-rotatory form of *Amphetamine*, so popular at present with the rotund; *Troxidone* (*Trimethadione*, *Tridione*) for control of the minor turns of epilepsy; *Lucanthone* (*Nilodin*), to deal with schistosomiasis (*Bilharzia*), and *Di-iodohydroxyquinoline* as an anti-amoebic.

Among the antibiotics, *Aureomycin* finds official cognisance, while *Sodium Aminosalicilate*, a nearly neutral salt of P.A.S., is defined and included for its synergism with the streptomycins.

Two sulphones—somewhat closely related to the sulphonamides—appear as complementary to the antileptous chaulmoogates. These comprise *Dapsone*, diamino-diphenyl-sulphone—the simplest of the series, and *Solapstone* (*Sulphetrone*), a water soluble sodium bisulphite homologue.

Muscle relaxants, rivals of tubo-curarine, which find an increasing field of utility to complement general anaesthetics, to reduce the severity of spasms in induced convulsions, and for symptomatic relief in various spastic, hypertonic and hyperkinetic syndromes, are well represented by *Decamethonium Iodide* (C10), *Gallamine Triethiodide* (*Flaxedil*) and *Mephenesin* (*Myanesin*)—one of the simple mono-ethers of glycerol. Ganglionic paralytics having definite, but, at present, limited spheres of utility, include *Pentamethonium Iodide* (C5); *Tetraethylammonium Bromide* (T.E.A.B.), and *Solution of Tetraethylammonium Chloride*.

A useful feature of the B.P.C. Monographs is the informal section in each devoted to actions and uses. Not only do these sections present a discreetly epitomised account of actions and uses, but practical observations relating to pharmacy, dosage, modes of administration and frequently treatment of overdosage, find general appreciation. Since the *Pharmacopoeia* has, with increased frequency, evaded the responsibility of quoting specific doses as a guide to both physician and pharmacist—to teacher and student—the practical, if unofficial posological guidance, of the B.P.C., is the more welcome.

The changes in Parts II, III, IV are for the most part amendments that bring the special monographs in those sections into line with the B.P. '48 and its Addendum. Many new surgical dressings are quoted in Part V and acceptable standards formulated.

The use of rayon as a partial replacement for cotton is sanctioned and a monograph is devoted to a rayon and rubber elastic bandage. To retain Latinised pseudonyms for these products, e.g., *Carbasus Absorbens* in *Taenia* for absorbent ribbon gauze, is surely a relic of Victorian pomposity and completely out of alignment with modern views and work-a-day custom.

The formulary section (Part VI) contains formulae for injections, nebulae and tablets incorporating several of the new drugs in Part I. Many older formulae have been modified for pharmaceutical or therapeutic reasons. *Borax* and *Formaldehyde Solution*, as a surgical instrument preservative solution, has been replaced by a solution of *Sodium Benzoate* and *Chlorocresol*.—B.L.S., 19/5/1952.

(The British Pharmaceutical Codex, 1949, Supplement, 1952. Published February 29, 1952, by direction of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. 145 pages. The Pharmaceutical Press, London. English price: 25/- nett.)

BOOKS RECEIVED

The Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1952-1953.

After a lapse of several years the Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has reappeared.

This book contains a great deal of valuable information concerning the functions, organisation and activities of the Society. Features include a short history of the Society, the Charter of Incorporation (1843), together with Supplemental Charters of 1905 and 1948. The By-laws of the Society and Model By-laws for branches are printed in full. Details are given of the organisation of branch representatives meeting and of the British Pharmaceutical Conference.

Personnel of various committees, details of the educational system, examination regulations also appear. Notes on the Library and Museum and details of the Dangerous Drugs, Poisons and Pharmacy Regulations and Acts make up the volume.



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Overseas News

GREAT BRITAIN

London, May 7, 1952.

The Health Bill.

The Health Bill is still making its way through Parliament against all the efforts of the Opposition to impede its progress. Finally the Government had to employ the "guillotine" on account of the large number of amendments which had been tabled. As yet no information is available on the date on which the charges will come into effect, but it will probably be June 1. During the debate in the committee stage Dr. King said that chemists were not particularly enamoured of the Health Service when it began, but they had loyally backed it up, and in their recent discussions they had revealed alarm at the prospects envisaged under the Bill in respect of the charges to be made. He was amazed that two Ministers should argue that the chemists were behaving irresponsibly when they talked about the difficulty of pricing prescriptions because they had to do it in times past. There had been a vast increase not only in the amount of business done by chemists, but also in the administering of doctors' prescriptions brought to them. If in the Committee he made criticisms that had been expressed to him by chemists who had loyally served the National Health Service, it was not from a political point of view, but from the point of view of a profession far less likely to be Labour than the people speaking on benches from which he himself was speaking, a branch of the scientific professions which had served the Service faithfully, and which was prepared to work the scheme although seriously concerned about the practical difficulties.

It is anticipated also that in the hospitals there will be some difficulties in effecting a smooth transition when the charges are imposed, as those for some appliances are high, e.g. £3 for surgical boots and £1 for surgical abdominal supports. Pharmacists have agreed to do their best to collect the shilling fees, but the Institute of Almoners have advised their thousand-odd members that they should refuse to accept responsibility for receiving payments, and further their clerks should not be engaged in this work. These almoners hold the view that accepting money would impair their normal friendly relations with the patients. In the rural areas the Central National Health Service Contractors Committee is taking a census of the prescriptions which are received from someone other than a member of the patient's household and of the number of cases in which the pharmacist does not normally come into contact with anyone from the patient's family.

On the negotiations side it has been decided that Co-operative Societies will be unable to give dividends on the shilling charge, and also that chemists in the rural areas who dispense a substantial number of prescriptions for families with whom they are not in contact, as indicated in the census mentioned above, will be given some financial advantage in the payment for their prescriptions.

It appears that an overall figure of three-eighths of a penny will be added to the accounts of these rural chemists for each form submitted for pricing, and in the towns one farthing per form will be allowed to compensate for the medicines left on the shelf and for which deposits have not been taken. This farthing will also include the allowance for cases in which the chemist's conscience has led him to supply the medicine although the levy was not paid.

Pharmacists' Remuneration.

The last agreement for contractors' remuneration was fixed on the basis that there should be no change until April 1, 1952. On that date a request for a revision was sent by the Staff Side of the Whitley Council, i.e. the Chemist Contractors Committee. This includes a request for an increased container allowance which was originally 2½d., but was reduced to 1½d. about two years ago. The new claim is based on facts as they are at present, and the Management Side has been informed that a further claim will be made insofar as the introduction of the prescription charge affects adversely the economics of providing the National Health Service pharmaceutical services.

Pharmaceutical Sales by the Metric System.

In one of these News Letters last year a summary was given of the findings of the team from the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry which went to the United States to examine manufacturing conditions there. When this report was published a Committee was set up to make recommendations based on the report. This Committee, which sat under the chairmanship of Mr. H. G. Rolfe, who was leader of the team in the U.S., and who is a Director of British Drug Houses Ltd., has now made a number of recommendations to the parent Association. It recommends greater collaboration among manufacturers in packaging problems and the standardisation of package components. To this end it recommends that liquid galenicals should be sold by volume instead of by weight, and that solids, liquid galenicals and pharmaceutical chemicals should be sold by metric weights and measures. It is hoped to put these recommendations into force within the next 12 months. They will not apply to products which are sold pre-packed for sale over the counter, e.g. olive oil and Epsom salts. The main advantages which it is claimed would result are:—

- (1) A substantial reduction in the number of sizes of bottles used, leading to economy in storage space for empties, cheaper bottle production and easier supply.
- (2) Saving in warehouse space for filled containers.
- (3) The same packings, before labelling is carried out, could be sold in all markets.

(4) Facilitation of the use of standard packing cases. On the question of bottles an approach has already been made to the Glass Manufacturers' Federation with a view to the standardisation of a new range of winchester type bottles to take the new metric volumes conveniently. The Association has tentatively put forward that winchester type bottles should be of such a size as conveniently to contain the following volumes: 25 mls; 100 mls; 250 mls; 500 mls; 1 litre; either 2 or 2½ litres, or 2½ litres.

These proposals have met with the approval of the Export Side of the Association. The formal opinion of the Ministry of Health is awaited, but initial reactions are said to be favourable. The N.P.U. "will not seek to put any obstacle in the way of their operation," and the Council of the Society "support the recommendations, and will co-operate in any way possible to secure that they are carried into effect rapidly and smoothly, should they be adopted by the Association." The Guild of Public Pharmacists has promised "the fullest co-operation" of the Council, and have expressed the hope that consideration will also be given to the shape of bottles. They point out that square or rectangular bottles have obvious advantages in the conservation of storage space. The recommendations have also been favourably received by the various export interests. It is intended to appoint a technical sub-committee to meet representatives of the Glass Manufacturers' Federation for detailed discussion of the proposed standard range of winchesters. The possibility of inclusive prices for containers will be considered by the Committee at a future meeting, and it is hoped that, eventually, it will be found possible to extend the standardisation of other packaging components.

Cost of Health.

At the annual dinner of the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry Mr. J. C. Hanbury, the President of the Association, said that slanderous and a great many ill-informed attacks had been made on the pharmaceutical industry and on the way it carried out its work and objects. They had been made, willy-nilly, the scapegoat and whipping-boy of a great many extravagances of the present time for which they were in no way responsible. They had a fine record and nothing of which they needed to be ashamed. The industry must show that it could play its part in the future life of the nation, and so be able to fit itself properly into the national economy. The toast of the Association was proposed by Dr. Ffrangcon Roberts, who has recently published a book on "The Cost of Health," where he maintains that the difficulty in maintaining an all-embracing Health Service is that "the amount of treatment which a nation can afford to provide depends upon its productive capacity." At this dinner Dr. Roberts said that what astonished him was the complexity of the pharmaceutical manufacturer's business; the difficulty of obtaining raw materials, the trade barriers, and legislation of all kinds. The paradox of the position he had already grasped. First, that the general dispensing practice taken away from the doctors now passed into the hands of the manufacturers, especially those who made specific remedies; second, to ensure success in their enterprise it was the duty of patients to continue to be ill; and third, that in order to develop the export trade it was essential still further for those at home to go on being ill.

The Minister and Prescribing.

At a recent Branch meeting of a division of the British Medical Association the Minister of Health (Mr. Harry Crookshank) drew attention to the essential need for effecting every possible economy in public expenditure, including that on the Health Service. General practitioners were in a position of great influence, as one of the greatest worries was the cost of drugs which now amounted to one-eighth of the whole cost of the Service. There was both an increasing number of prescriptions and an increasing average cost. The wider question was whether all this prescribing was really necessary. Doctors, speaking generally, seemed to say no, but it was more difficult to apply this maxim to the individual case affected by pressure by the patient or high-powered salesmanship by commercial travellers. His advice to patients was: "Your doctor knows best what is good for you; do not press him for any particular medicine you may fancy; pay more attention to what he advises; surely in the present educated age we should have outgrown the 'bottle' habit; and, anyhow, you really have no right to ask the doctor for remedies intended for self-medication, and the doctor is under no obligation to supply such remedies." His advice to doctors was: "Your best protection against high-powered and sometimes over-enthusiastic salesmanship is knowledge of the cost of prescribing."

Insurance Benefits.

In the Budget speech it was announced that there would be changes in family allowances and in pensions to compensate to some extent for the withdrawal of subsidies on foods. Family allowances will be raised to 8/- per week for the second and later children. This will affect about three million children. The retirement pension will be increased to 32/6 for a single person and 54/- for a married couple from the previous levels of 26/- and 42/-. More than four million pensioners will receive the new rates. Industrial injuries benefit will be increased to 55/- and to 76/6 for a married couple. These new rates will come into effect in September, and in the following month the weekly contributions will be increased. Employed men will pay 5/9 and employers 4/4. Women will pay 4/6 and their employers 3/11. Self-employed men and women

will pay 7/5 and 6/2 per week respectively; the corresponding rates for non-employed men will be 5/7 and for women 4/5. The Government Actuary states that the additional cost to the Exchequer of the increased family allowance will be £23 million for the current financial year and £39 million in the first full year. Higher benefits will cost an extra £32 million in the current year and £59 million in the full year. The higher contributions will bring in £33 million in the present financial year and £69 million in a full year. Looking ahead, it appears that the income to the fund will be fairly constant for the next 25 years, but extra expenditure, while slightly below income in the first few years, will then increase rapidly to exceed the income by £36 million in 1977.

A Dishonest Practice.

The practice of patients altering the amount prescribed by their doctor seems to be on the increase. In Glasgow a prescription for 2 oz. of lint had been altered to 12 oz., and in another 1 lb. of cotton wool had been changed to 4 lb. Also the total number of tablets on a prescription had been altered from 36 to 48. In one case in England a patient is being prosecuted for submitting forged prescriptions.

An Unusual Case.

An unusual case was heard recently by a Pharmaceutical Service Committee in England. A patient who had been burnt received a prescription for, amongst other things, one tube of Triofax. A different ointment was prescribed. The pharmacist stated that when he received the prescription he asked his assistant to bring gauze and a large tube of Tannafax. The assistant had, however, supplied a tube of Tineafax, which phonetically is very similar. It was some considerable time later, after the chemist's attention had been drawn to the complaint and the prescription recovered from the Pricing Office, that the source of the error was discovered. The Committee agreed that the similarity in the names of the three ointments, of which the chemist was thoroughly aware, should have ensured that he would use the requisite care in satisfying himself that the proper ointment had been dispensed. The handwriting was not illegible, and a penalty of £10 was recommended.

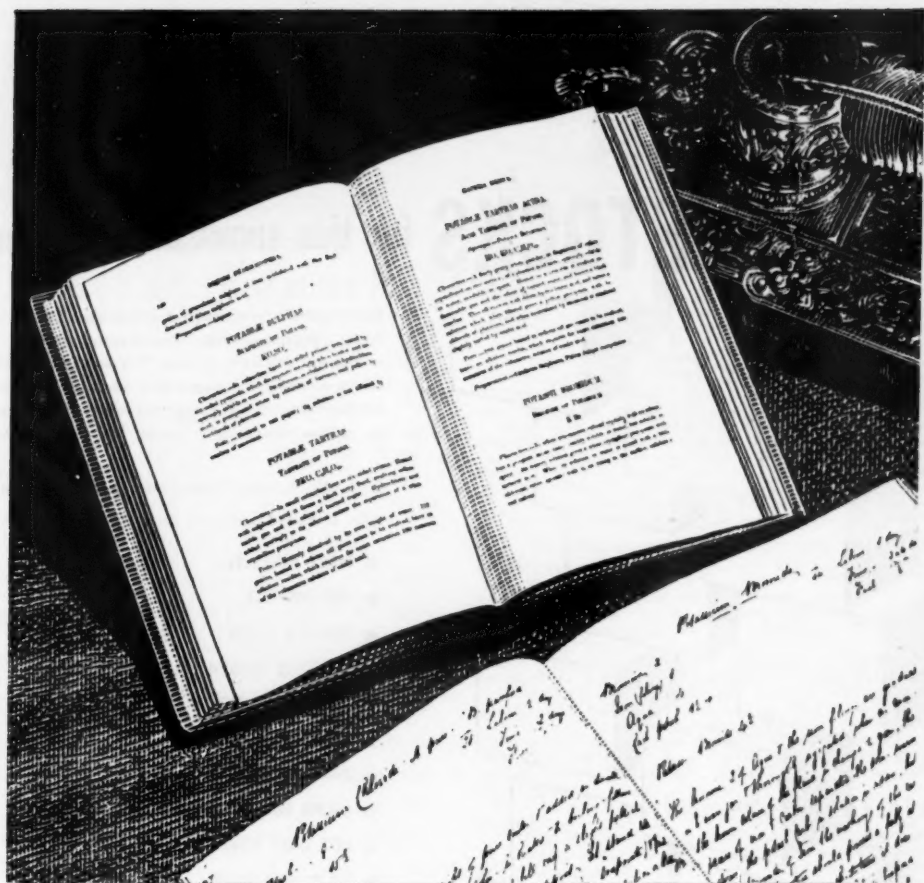
Co-operation in the Services.

The various aspects of the Health Service are divided among Executive Councils, hospitals and Local Authorities. The Central Health Services Council has now issued a report of a Committee which was examining the question of co-operation. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the only method which can be widely developed to secure a major improvement is that of standing joint liaison committees at local level. Local joint health consultative committees should be set up for convenient groupings of local Health Authorities, Executive Councils and Hospital Management Committees. Demarcation of the areas should be decided to suit local circumstances. Much of the work would be done by officers, and administrative expenses should be small.

One member disagrees, and expresses the view that "a mass creation of additional committees would, on balance, do more harm than good." Among the steps he favours to deal with the problem are: The greatest personal freedom of action at all levels, less rigid financial control, and greater flexibility in the allocation of functions.

Scottish Celebrations.

The Scottish Department of the Society, which was known as the North British Branch until 1948, has been celebrating its jubilee. A distinguished company, including the Earl of Home (Minister of State for Scottish Affairs) and Mr. F. C. Wilson (President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain) were present at a dinner in Edinburgh on April 16. The toast of the Scottish Department was proposed by Lord Home, who



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said that the Society and the Scottish Department had set such a high standard and had earned such a reputation for reliability that each citizen in Scotland went to his chemist (he would not say "pharmacist") with absolute confidence in their integrity.

The history of the Department has been issued in booklet form describing the outstanding events and personalities of the last 100 years. When the Pharmaceutical Society was founded 111 years ago there were only nine full members and two associates in Scotland. John Mackay was the first Secretary there. He was a close friend of Jacob Bell, and along with the brothers T. and H. Smith and J. F. Macfarlane contributed to the early work of the Society in London.

Market Report

LONDON MARKET REPORT.

May 7, 1952.

Prices throughout the drug market are still moving downwards, and a number of offers of this year's crop of drugs confirm the tendency.

Senega for July-August shipment is 12/9 per lb., compared with 16/- for old crop, when last offered; the spot rate is 15/- per lb.

Ergot has dropped back to 30/- per lb. for this year's crop when it becomes available in Portugal in mid-summer.

A firm price for 1952 cascara bark is not yet known, but there are some indications that it will be in the neighbourhood of 270/- per cwt.

Reductions in ipecacuanha have not been so marked, but high testing Nicaraguan root is now 48/- per lb. for shipment and 56/- on the spot, with poorer alkaloidal content 4/- below this price.

Cardamoms are easier; Aleppi greens are 17/3 per lb. on the spot, and seed is 10/- above this figure.

Jamaican No. 3 ginger has gone back to 190/- per cwt., and some No. 2 is offered at 205/-.

Turmeric is cheaper by a further 5/- per cwt. at 65/- per cwt., and forward 52/6 for good Madras finger.

Canada balsam is very scarce, and is worth from 32/6 per lb. upwards.

Good quality rough, round, high-dried rhubarb can now be bought at 7/6 per lb.

Strophanthus seed is quoted at 17/6 per lb. for 100 per cent. Kombé seed.

Agar has gone up to 14/6 per lb., and restrictions have been placed on importations.

Menthol is fractionally cheaper at 51/- per lb. for Chinese duty paid.

Essential oils have been steadier.

Aniseed is 8/6 per lb., and forward offers 1/- per lb. above this figure.

Chinese peppermint has varied between 34/6 and 35/6 per lb., and the forward position is still obscure.

Shipment quotations for lemongrass are around 9/- per lb., and spot is worth 10/3.

A few reductions have been made in pharmaceutical and fine chemicals.

The most important of these has been a further drop of 5/- per lb. for both caffeine and theobromine, and corresponding adjustments have been made in the compounds.

The new rates for caffeine and its compounds in 7-lb. lots are: Alkaloid anhydrous, 41/-; alkaloid B.P., 38/6; citrate, 25/-; sodium benzoate, 26/-; sodium iodide, 35/-; sodium salicylate, 27/-.

Corresponding rates for theobromine are: Alkaloid, 41/-; calcium salicylate, 29/-; sodium benzoate, 26/-; sodium salicylate, 27/-.

Strychnine is up by 6d. per oz. for the alkaloid and all its salts. The alkaloid is now 7/8 per oz. in 25-oz. lots.

Emetine, however, has been reduced considerably. The hydrochloride is now 297/- per oz. in 16-oz. lots, and the bismuth iodide is 148/6 in the same quantity.

Thymol is down to 20/6 per lb. in 28-lb. lots.

Magnesium trisilicate is lower by 7d. per lb., with 28-lb. lots at 4/9½ per lb.

Student Activities

Import Cuts Hold Up the Text-book Concession Scheme.

I should like to point out that the delay in filling orders under this scheme is not the fault of the responsible N.U.P.S.A. officer, but is due rather to the recent import cuts. However, we are now able to continue our work on this scheme, and the necessary text-books should be available very shortly.

Queensland Pharmacy Students' Society.

During the month, the Queensland students held a dance in St. Francis Hall, City. The function was very successful—some 180 people being in attendance.

The college is in recess between May 2 and 12, and, therefore, no functions will be held during this period.

Arrangements are well in hand now for the annual Pharmacy Ball, to be held on June 7, at Cloudland. The Ball this year promises to be very good, especially as the Student Association has booked a block of alcoves at the hall, thus enabling all students to be together.

Victorian Pharmacy Students' Association.

The annual general meeting of this Association was held at the Pharmacy College last month, and was very well attended, 96 students being present.

Reports of the retiring officers were read and received, and then proposed amendments to the Constitution were brought forward.

One very important and valuable amendment, as far as N.U.P.S.A. is concerned, was added under Clause 6 of the V.P.S.A. Constitution, and in including this motion below I should like to add that it was passed unanimously by the students present at the meeting. This, I feel, shows that students realise the value of their National Union, and are, by such passing of this motion, trying to help the Union extend its somewhat limited field.

Here then is the motion passed at V.P.S.A.'s General Meeting:—

"So long as the Association is an accredited constituent organisation of N.U.P.S.A. the Association shall pay to N.U.P.S.A. a sum of money equivalent to not less than 5/- per capita full membership of the Association."

The publication of V.P.S.A.'s news-sheet "The Scruple" is now well under way, and copies are to be sent to each Student Association.

Arrangements are being made for the Queen's birthday week-end, when the college "takes over" a guest house in Healsville. There students will participate in hiking, riding, dancing, golf and barbecues, etc. Also, early in second term, the students will travel to Ferry Creek for a Sunday, and here the different years will challenge each other in football, baseball and tennis. At night a barbecue will be held before returning.

An address was given, on April 23, by Mr. Mapletorpe, managing director of Allen and Hanburys, England. Mr. Mapletorpe spoke on student associations in Great Britain and also gave English opinions on many subjects.

A special V.P.S.A.-N.U.P.S.A. notice-board has been erected at the college, and this valuable contribution was donated by the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

Sydney University Pharmaceutical Association.

A dance was held on April 23, and guest of honour

was visiting Queensland Pharmacy Students' Society president, Peter Davidson.

Sydney students' annual general meeting had to be brought forward to May 14, when the election of the 1952 officers also took place. A "Settlement Fete" was held at the University on May 17. Pharmacy conducted a stall to augment the funds of the University settlement.

Adelaide University Pharmacy Students' Association.

With the first term already almost over, Adelaide University Pharmacy Students' Association's plans for 1952 are now well under way.

Under the capable leadership of Nancy Gerard, the social committee has big plans ahead for 1952.

These include a hike, informal dances, football and hockey matches with F. H. Faulding and Co., the annual dinner, and, of course, the all-important Pharmacy Ball. The Ball plans are well under way, and it would appear that the event will be a great success.

With the addition of extra curricula topics in the form of talks and films of pharmaceutical interest, this year will, I think, prove to be a busy one.

A sample of the good times to come was the informal dance held at the University on May 9. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all — a good floor, novelties, an excellent supper, and first-class music being provided.

From what we have seen at A.U.P.S.A.'s 1952 activities so far it would appear that this year will be the most successful one yet, and it is hoped that

A.U.P.S.A. will become an even stronger supporter of the National Union.

Congress Site 1953.

The executive of N.U.P.S.A. has been considering the best site for the National Congress next year. At the moment enquiries are being made in Victoria, and as soon as I have any further data at hand I will mention same in this column. An early arrangement of the 1953 Congress Site will enable students to arrange their vacation time to allow them to attend.

Election of an I.P.S.F. Local Secretary.

At the Castlereagh talks it was decided to establish a new office of the National Union. Thus Mr. W. Wilkinson, of Sydney, became our first International Pharmacy Students' Federation Local Secretary. The creation of this post is an important step in expanding our overseas activities, and as a full-time officer he now handles the correspondence of our overseas representatives (and I.P.S.F. council members). This will ensure that Australian pharmacy student circles are kept in close contact with the ideas and activities of those overseas. Many aspects of our work will benefit from this—particularly our Pharmaceutical Education Survey, which will be concentrated more this year on U.S.A. and Canada. The reports of the I.P.S.F. sub-committee on Education will do much to widen our knowledge of educational systems in Europe. In addition, individual reports on the state of pharmacy in these countries, after translation, will be available to the editors of various State Association newsletters for publication, so that this interesting and valuable information may be made available to as many students as possible.

Pharmaceutical Education and N.U.P.S.A.

The nature of much National Union work does not perhaps command the immediate and continual interest of students generally. Consequently, some students who are not in reasonably close contact with their State Associations may not fully realise the scope of our work. They may not, therefore, realise that besides the stimulating influence of Congress discussions, the very important fact emerges that the opinions of students on many aspects of the profession are of value.

This view has recently been supported by Mr. Mapletorpe in addressing Victorian pharmaceutical students, as reported in this column of the April "A.J.P." I should like also to quote the N.S.W. Minister for Health in speaking to the Bill concerning recent educational changes in N.S.W. I do this for the benefit of many students who, because they (for some reason or other) seem to be somewhat apathetic towards their Student Associations, do not assume during the opportune student-years the broader responsibilities of professional life. There are, in addition, many pharmacists who are unable to understand the driving force which results in the present instability of student activities, and I quote from the Minister for Health for their benefit also.

Mr. O'Sullivan outlined the N.U.P.S.A. policy on Education last expounded, and continued:—

"This is the policy which has been adopted by the National Union of Pharmaceutical Students of Australia. The Bill is founded almost entirely on the views expressed by the students themselves, and I think that we should be proud that we have been able to do what they wish."

These words cannot fail to drive home the value of a Nation-wide Student Organisation in giving character and resolution to student views.

The topic of Pharmaceutical Education is but one point upon which we have been able to assess the views of Australian students. This assessment (by Constituent Organisations' ratification of Congress resolutions) will soon be under way, and I look forward to presenting these views through this column.

—DALE E. WEEDMAN, N.P.O.

Classified Advertisements

The charge for these Advertisements is 2/6 per line, with a minimum of 7/6, payable in advance.

N.S.W. PHARMACY FOR SALE. Large country town. Turnover over £300 weekly. Consider exchange for smaller Sydney suburban pharmacy, with cash adjustment. Further particulars to "No. 1552," c/o "A.J.P." Office, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

BLUE MOUNTAINS (N.S.W.) PHARMACY FOR SALE. Shop and dwelling. Suit young couple or single person. Principals only. For full particulars, write to Mrs. E. CALLINAN, 178 Sydney Rd., Fairlight, Manly, N.S.W.

DUTCHMAN (chemist), at present in Holland, looks for manufacturers interested in Cocaine, Kovacaine Ephedrine, Morphine from Poppy-heads. Has a machine (prototype) for harvesting. Is a good salesman, knowing English, German, French. Letters "No. 14552," c/o "A.J.P." Office, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

ANALYTICAL SERVICE, O. A. MENDELSON & CO. (O. A. Mendelsohn, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.), Public Analysts and Consulting Industrial Chemists, 386 Flinders Lane, Melbourne; 35 Grenfell Street, Adelaide; 29 Bligh Street, Sydney; and 74 Eagle Street, Brisbane. Analyses of drugs, cosmetics, foods and general manufactures. Profession discount on fees to pharmacists.

ALBERT KOCH, Qualified Analyst, 469 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. Food and drugs tested for purity. Phones: MU 1922 and LF 1069.

C. A. SMYTHE & CO., Public Analysts and Consulting Industrial Chemists, C.B.S. Building, 90 King William Street, Adelaide. General analysis of drugs, foodstuffs, metals, etc. Duplication and substitution of products. Technical research, plant design and legal testimony. Bacteriological examination of foods, canned foods, etc. Special rates to pharmacists. Telephone: Central 601.

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Trade Notes

SCHIFFMANN'S ASTHMADOR POWDER

Fassett & Johnson Ltd., of Sydney, has advised that the following new prices became operative at the beginning of May:—

	Retail per Doz.	Public Each
3 dozen	57/-	6/6
Under 3 dozen	58/6	

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICALS PTY. LTD.

The above company has notified the following revised prices to take effect as from May 12:—

	Price to Chemists.
Moryl Amps., 3's	1/6
Moryl Amps., 10's	4/6
Moryl Tabs., 20's	1/3
Moryl Tabs., 50's	3/-
Picrotoxin Amps., 20's	6/6
Neo-Hombrool Vials, 10 cc., 50 mgm. per cc.	100/-
A.C.T.H. (Cortrophin) 12 x 10 i.u.	148/-
A.C.T.H. (Cortrophin) 12 x 25 i.u.	350/-

"ENTEROCID:" PRICE REDUCTIONS.

We are advised by British Schering Ltd., of Sydney, that, as from June 1, the new prices of the above product will be:—

	Wholesale Price to Chemists	Retail Price
	s. d.	s. d.
"Enterocid" Tablets, 25	8 6	12 9
"Enterocid" Tablets, 100	26 6	35 6
"Enterocid" Tablets, 500	110 0	—
"Enterocid" Suspension, 100 c.c.	8 6	12 9
"Enterocid" Suspension, 500 c.c.	26 6	35 6

"INTRA-VITE": NEW PRICES

The Ethical Division of Nicholas Pty. Ltd. has advised that as from May 1, 1952, the price structure of "Intra-Vite" B₁₂ was altered as follows:—

Price to Chemist—12/6 per box of six ampoules.
Price to Doctor—14/6 per box of six ampoules.
Retail Price—17/6 per box of six ampoules.

A decrease in the cost of raw materials has enabled the company to make this reduction, and it is pointed out that this product will conform to the new Pharmaceutical Benefits Act ceiling price of 16/8 for six ampoules, which became effective on May 1.

The company wishes to draw the attention of chemists to the fact that from May 1 its products, "Intra-Vite" Pyridoxine, "Intra-Vite" K, and Sulphaguanidine Tablets (Nicholas) will not be available under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, as the company has found it impossible to maintain the quality and standards it considers necessary, and also to meet new ceiling prices for these drugs.

"CORTONE" FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

New York, May 24 (XNS).—Cortisone, the epoch-making drug, is now being introduced in world markets in a new form which promises relief for millions of sufferers of a wide variety of eye ailments.

Spokesmen of Merck (North America) Inc., export subsidiary of Merck & Co. Inc., manufacturing chemists, of Rahway, New Jersey, who produce the drug under the trade name of "Cortone," revealed that initial shipments were being made in the last week of May to

Australia and New Zealand for distribution to physicians and hospitals in these two countries.

Clinical tests of the drug, easily applied in liquid drop form, and described as "Ophthalmic Suspension of Cortone," proved its effectiveness in treating numerous diseases which endanger eyesight. In many instances, it was reported, it helped prevent blindness, and in practically all cases it shortened the period of disability caused by inflammatory eye diseases.

SIGMA COMPANY LIMITED

Annual Meeting Held at Tromax, April 30, 1952.

After the meeting had been declared open the balance-sheet and profit and loss account were taken as read, on the motion of Mr. Geoff. Leete, seconded by Mr. Flint, and received on the motion of Mr. El Braithwaite, seconded by Mr. Barker.

After reading the Directors' report to the meeting, the Chairman of Directors, Mr. A. H. Mansell, addressed the shareholders present. The following passages are taken from his remarks:—

"Last year I directed your attention to the all-time record of £93,000 dividend. This year I direct your attention to another all-time record dividend of £113,000. But it is the especial desire of your Board that these figures should be properly understood. With this in view, I would remind you that last year's dividend was earned on shareholders' funds of £455,000, which expressed as a percentage is about 20.4 per cent. This year's dividend is much greater in total, but was earned on shareholders' funds of £613,000—a percentage of 18.4.

"This slight drop in profits from last year's record is typical of business movement generally. Our percentage of overhead to turnover is the highest in our history, despite our all-time record sales of about £2 million. This is the experience of many enterprises of today, and perhaps forecasts some lessening of future dividends. As an indication of some of today's difficulties, I would point to the hardships, work, and expense incurred by the company as an unpaid Government tax collector. We handle goods in eight different tax categories. The Commissioner requires us to submit monthly analyses of our business in each of these groups. This cannot be done without very elaborate accounting machines. We are establishing a Powers dissecting installation which will cost us over £3000 per annum, plus the cost of operating staff, plus the fact that the company must pay the Sales Tax Commissioner promptly—even before collecting from you! (£11,000 before the 21st of each month).

"A new item in the balance sheet is a mortgage of £32,500 which has since been increased to £50,000. This money was obtained at bank interest rates, and because of the fixed repayment programme, was considered by this Board to be more sound than a similar amount on bank overdraft, which, of course, is subject to call at a moment's notice. The Little Bourke street property was revalued during the year, the difference between the new value and the original cost being shown as freehold revaluation reserve, £37,386. Almost all of the property in Queensberry street, Carlton is now occupied by the company.

"The Board has continued its policy of modernising and adding to its motor fleet, factory plant, and office equipment as required; about £30,000 having been spent in this direction during the year. Messrs. Allsop and Hobbs were recently appointed respectively as Assistant General Manager (Warehouse) and Assistant General Manager (Technical), while Mr. Bolitho has been promoted from acting Factory Manager to Factory Manager. The Board is continuing its efforts to have the executives and staff trained in a manner which will assist them in the execution of their duties.

"In an effort to keep abreast of modern trends, a screening committee meets regularly to analyse new developments, and to make recommendations to the Board regarding production of new products. The company was recently appointed agent for S. Maw, Son & Sons Ltd., for much of Australia, and a new department known as Sig-Max Services was set up to handle these and any similar projects. Unfortunately, it seems that the Government restrictions recently imposed on imports will close this section of our activities.

"Some comment of apparent lateness of the annual meeting has reached me. It is true that some years ago we met in March, then early April, and now late April. However, I would point out that Easter has been a factor this year, but it must also be realised that as the company extends and becomes so very complex, the time lag must become greater. Our year closes at the end of January, and three months is little enough time in these days of staff shortages, to take stock, prepare balances, submit them to the auditors for exhaustive investigation, then proceed to printing and postal distribution.

"It is my desire to place on record our appreciation to a loyal staff, who have laboured under the difficulties of today. We regret greatly the loss of Mr. Booth, who has been with the company for almost twenty years, and who has now attained his desire of his own business. We wish him well and all happiness in his undertaking.

"In conclusion, I desire to especially refer to our director, Mr. Philip Wheeler, who now retires. Our loss will be great, for he possesses the accumulated wisdom that has come from long years of experience. In a company such as Sigma has now grown to be, with all its ramifications of subsidiaries, factory production, marketing, buying and selling, in amounts now talked of in part-millions and millions, the Directors are held responsible in law for the conduct of the company, and only long years of experience can qualify one to discharge these many duties. In this experience Mr. Wheeler has excelled, and we will be the poorer for his leaving. We wish him well, and very many years of contented retirement."

Discussion of Annual Report and Accounts

Mr. Crowley congratulated the Directors on a very successful year, and raised the following points:—

(1) He suggested that the number of shareholders be shown in future on the balance sheet.—Mr. Morrison replied that the number had increased from 900 to 950 shareholders.

(2) He asked what was the reason for the item "Advances to Subsidiary Companies" increasing by an amount of approximately £58,000. Mr. Morrison replied that this was a loan to Tromax to finance increased stocks.

Dr. A. L. Cunningham then explained that the staff Education Fund was being actively used for educational purposes, and mentioned that two executives had recently been sent to a five weeks' management conference in Sydney at a cost of £500. This would be paid from the fund.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite suggested that the ballot for Directors should be secret in future. The Chairman replied that this would be considered by the Board.

Election of Directors.

The Chairman then stated the next business was to elect one Director to represent preference shareholders. Dr. A. L. Cunningham being unopposed, was declared duly elected.

The next business was to elect one Director to represent ordinary and vendors' shareholders. Mr. P. Wheeler retiring and not seeking re-election, a postal ballot was conducted, as provided from the Articles of Association, and Mr. F. N. Lee was declared elected.

General Business

The next business was to elect **Auditors** and fix their remuneration. Messrs. Davey, Garcia and J. G. Davis retired, and being eligible, offered themselves for re-election. The Chairman suggested a figure of 600 gns. per annum. Moved by Mr. W. McCall Say and seconded by Mr. M. Malone.—Carried.

Mr. V. Preston moved a sincere **vote of thanks to Mr. P. Wheeler**, including in his motion that the Company should buy a suitable gift to the value of approximately 50 gns. to present to Mr. Wheeler in appreciation of his long service to the Company. Seconded by Mr. Flint.

Mr. Walker moved an amendment that the value of the gift be increased to 500 gns. He withdrew his amendment at the request of Mr. Wheeler. The original motion was then carried with acclamation.

Dr. Cunningham and Mr. Leete, Snr., also spoke in praise of Mr. Wheeler's long and valuable service to the company.

Mr. Wheeler replied suitably, and made a moving appeal, particularly to the young members present, to remember the principles of co-operation upon which Sigma was founded.

In reply to a question regarding **telephone service**, Mr. Wilcock advised of recent expansion in equipment and staff.

Mr. E. W. Braithwaite asked why **Sulphacillin Dental Cones** bearing Sigma's name could not be bought by the chemists from Sigma Company, but only from a dental supply house?

Mr. Haigh, in reply, said that while Sigma owned the trade mark, Sigma supplied this exclusively to a dental supply house as it had been considered that the sales through chemists would be negligible. It was thought desirable that Sigma should own the trade mark to ensure the Company's continuing interest in them. He promised that further consideration would be given to this point.

Mr. Crowley suggested (1) **loose leaf price lists**, new printed sheets to be supplied when alterations were made. The price list should also indicate the quantity packed in original outers of all lines. (2) He asked "Are **turnover orders** profitable for Sigma Company?" Mr. Haigh, in reply, said that on the whole turnover orders do pay the Company, and suggested that shareholders should put all their turnover orders through Sigma.

Mr. F. N. Lee thanked the shareholders for their confidence in electing him and assured them that he would make every endeavour to pull his weight. Mr. E. A. O. Moore congratulated Mr. Lee upon his election.

The Chairman, in closing the meeting, gave a resume of Directors' duties and responsibilities under Company Law, and indicated the severity of penalties of breaches of these statutory requirements of the law.

SIGMA RETIREMENTS

Mr. P. H. Wheeler, who has retired as a Director of Sigma Company Ltd., and Mr. J. Booth, the Company's Accountant, who recently resigned after 16 years' service with Sigma, were farewelled at a function at which Dr. and Mrs. Alan Cunningham were host and hostess, on April 27. All members of the Directorate, together with the General Manager, paid tribute to Mr. Wheeler, who was described as one of the true pioneers of the chemists' own company. He was presented with a travelling rug and a letter of appreciation of his services.

Mr. Booth's resignation came as a surprise. He has gone into business on his own account at Woori Yallock. As a mark of appreciation of his services a presentation of notes and a silver tea and coffee service was made to Mr. Booth, and the Chairman expressed to him the thanks of the Company for his long and helpful service.

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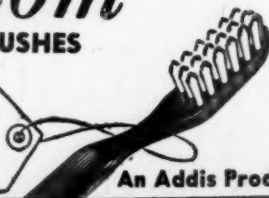
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Wisdom
TOOTHBRUSHES

1. Nylon Bristle
2. Natural Bristle
3. Junior Brush



An Addis Product

Commonwealth and State News

NEW SOUTH WALES

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. J. C. Matthews is opening a pharmacy at Bathurst.
Mr. T. Shortis, of Bondi Junction, has sold his pharmacy to **Mr. L. F. Shortis**.

Mr. A. J. Locantore, of Leichhardt, has sold his pharmacy to **Mr. W. A. Curry**.

Mr. J. H. E. Kearney has purchased **Mr. H. E. Mowbray's** pharmacy, Parramatta road, Petersham.

Mr. S. Baker, of Wauchope, has sold his business to **Mr. R. R. Blacket**.

Mr. J. Singer has purchased **Burke's Pharmacy**, Haberfield.

Mr. K. A. Yeatman is opening a pharmacy at Unanderra.

Mr. W. H. Lawson, late of Boolaroo, has purchased **Clouston's Pharmacy**, St. Leonards.

Mr. P. Coater, St. Ives, has sold his business to **Mr. F. S. Ekas**.

Mr. J. J. McDonough has purchased **Mr. S. G. Williams'** pharmacy at Wagga.

Mr. R. R. Knox, Gundagai, has sold his pharmacy to **Mr. E. A. Jerrems**.

Mr. W. L. Sayle, Ryde, has sold his business to **Mr. H. F. Rippon**.

Mr. T. M. Shortis has opened a pharmacy at Seven Hills.

Mr. A. G. Shirlow, Artarmon, has sold his pharmacy to **Miss H. Nolan**.

Mr. S. Hannaford, late Sales Manager of Washington H. Soul, Pattinson & Co. Ltd., has purchased **Dash's Pharmacy**, Moree.

Our sympathies are extended to **Mr. H. W. Read**, Councillor of the Pharmaceutical Society, who suffered the loss of his father recently.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Maplethorpe were farewelled by the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. at a cocktail party held in their honour at "Merrybyn", Bellevue Hill, on May 9. The President of the Society, **Mr. K. A. Cartwright**, spoke appropriately to the occasion, and presented the guests of honour with a souvenir of their visit in the form of a silver boomerang-shaped paper knife set with an opal. In responding, **Mr. Maplethorpe** said he and his wife had thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Australia, and regretted that the time had now come for them to return home, in spite of the fact that he rather doubted the statement that Australia was a land of sunshine, as rainy weather had prevailed during most of his sojourn in this country.

Wedding.—We extend our congratulations and best wishes to **Mr. and Mrs. Colin Smyth**, who were married at St. Matthew's Church, Ashbury, on May 22. The bride was formerly **Miss Margaret Davidson**, only child of **Dr. and Mrs. Chris. Davidson**, of Ashbury.

OBITUARY.

Many pharmacists, and others associated with the pharmacy profession throughout Australia and New Zealand, will regret to learn of the untimely passing of **Mr. Kenneth D. Robertson**, Director of Ethical Services, Wyeth Incorporated.

After graduating in 1927 **Mr. Robertson** spent some time in retail pharmacy before joining the staff of Wyeth Incorporated in 1932 as a country salesman. His con-

scientious approach to his job soon brought promotion, and in 1937 he was appointed Branch Manager in New Zealand. After a successful term there he returned to Australia in 1943 to take up appointment as Director of Ethical Services for Australia and New Zealand.

The merit of **Mr. Robertson's** work was widely known, and there are many who will miss his counsel in the many merchandising problems associated with pharmacy.

As an executive of a large organisation he was eminently successful, and as a pharmacist he lived up to the high traditions of the profession. Vale **Ken Robertson**.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF N.S.W. Annual Dinner.

"Carlton" Hotel, Castlereagh Street, Sydney, Thursday, June 12, 1952. Dinner 7 o'clock. Cocktails 6.30 p.m.

Members of the Society desirous of attending the annual dinner should advise the secretary prior to Friday, June 6. Subscription £2/10/-.

THE SCIENCE GROUP.

The Science Group held its meeting on May 16, **Mr. Read** occupying the chair.

The meeting was well attended, and an interesting evening was spent in discussing pharmaceutical problems in general.

The next meeting will be held at "Science House," on June 20, when **Dr. McCarthy**, of Parke Davis & Co. Ltd., will present a film dealing with the testing and pharmacology of drugs.

RED CROSS NEWS BULLETINS.

Siamese Doctor Visits Australian Red Cross B.T.S.

Dr. Sommai Sringham, a graduate of the University of Siam, arrived in Sydney last month as a guest of the Australian Red Cross Society.

During her six months' stay in this country she will study Red Cross Blood Transfusion Centres in each State.

Dr. Sringham is the first person to come to Australia to make an intensive study of our blood transfusion system. On her return to Siam she hopes to establish a similar system.

Disabled Soldier Wins R.A.S. Honours.

Totally and permanently disabled First World War veteran **Mr. L. Betts**, of Hornsby, N.S.W., won first prize at the Royal Easter Show with an outstanding exhibit. It is a 9 ft. square floor rug woven in a most unusual Persian design. It took more than three years to make, and is now for sale at Red Cross House, Jamieson street, Sydney.

Blood Donors' Association.

The Quarterly General Meeting of the Blood Donors' Association was held at the Chapter House, George street, Sydney, on May 27.

At the meeting approximately 90 of the 170 donors who during the past year have completed their 30th donation of blood to the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service received a special donations badge.

This means that they must have been in attendance for at least 7½ years, for a person can only give blood four times a year.

The Chairman of the N.S.W. Division of the Red Cross Society, **Mr. J. F. Clack**, personally presented the badges at the meeting.

Miss M. Cox, of Junior Red Cross, gave a talk on the work of Junior Red Cross.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

P.A.T.A. OF NEW SOUTH WALES. Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the P.A.T.A. of N.S.W. was held at "Atlas Buildings," Spring Street, Sydney, on May 15, Mr. W. A. Patterson (Chairman) presiding.

The memory of Archibald Gordon Short, a Councillor from 1923, was honoured, and moving tributes of personal regard and admiration of his fine qualities and services were voiced by the Chairman and other members.

The Report of the Council and the audited Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended December 31, 1951, after full discussion, were adopted unanimously.

The report included the following references:—

"Membership. — Manufacturers' Branch: Membership increased by six on last year's figure.

"Retailers' Branch: Retail membership has again increased and now stands at 1078, the net gain for the year being 56.

"Council.—At the annual election, Mr. J. H. Lange (The Denver Chemical Manufacturing Co.) was elected to the Manufacturers' Section to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. R. Evans (Alfred Lawrence & Co. Ltd.). In the room of Mrs. Douglas Ramsay, who resigned, Mr. R. K. Strang was elected to the Retail Section. Mr. W. A. Patterson was re-elected Chairman and Mr. A. G. Short Hon. Treasurer, both for a third term.

"Executive. — Messrs. N. V. Kerr and A. G. Short (Manufacturers' Section) and Messrs. A. C. Fraser and O. V. Leggo (Retail Section) were re-elected.

"Finance.—Income for the year was substantially the same as in 1950, whilst expenditure increased by £130, attributable to rises in salaries, rent, printing and telephone charges, offset to an extent by small reductions in other items. The net result was a surplus of £258/15/9, which, carried to Accumulated Funds, brought that account to £3,692/11/11. After payment of a retiring allowance, voted to Mr. G. E. Nicholas, Accumulated Funds at close of the period stood at £2942/11/11. Expenditure in the ensuing year is expected to show a material reduction.

"Secretaryship.—During the year, Mr. G. E. Nicholas notified the Council of his intention to retire, at December 31, from the position of Executive Secretary, an office he had filled from January, 1948. His four years' service in this position had followed almost 29 years of valuable work as Field Officer. The Council marked its appreciation of his services by voting Mr. Nicholas a retiring allowance.

"The filling of the chief salaried office of the Association was given careful study in the light of the existing situation. Taking account of the fact that for several years past there has been no price-cutting, and that the economic and trade climate is discouraging to any revival of it in the immediate future, the Council decided to appoint Mrs. M. Hall as Acting Secretary for the year commencing January 1, 1952. The Association is fortunate in being able to call on Mrs. Hall, for, in addition to exceptional knowledge of the inner working of the P.A.T.A. gained through the troubled years of its upbuilding, she was Assistant Secretary for the four years immediately past. The Council was fortified in its decision by the fact that the Hon. General Secretary was prepared to make himself freely available for consultation.

"Protected List.—The 21st Issue of the Protected List, coming into force June 1, 1951, was published and circulated throughout the State. Unfortunately, constantly rising costs jumped many of the list prices, even in the interval between printing and circulation.

"Conditions of Sale.—Freedom from price-cutting con-

tinues to characterise trade in protected articles; other irregularities are rarely to be found. However, an aggravated case of unauthorised supply and sale of Cinemists' Section articles came to notice during the year. A North Coast store, after withdrawal of a PEK-MIT formerly granted, was found to have obtained considerable supplies through the laxity of a wholesaler. Deterrent action was taken; the wholesaler was required to recover unsold stock from the store, and in addition, was mulct in a salutary monetary penalty.

"Price Maintenance Threatened.—Members may recall that, in the 26th Annual Report of the Council, presented to the members last year, a general survey was made of the present-day status of the movement for Price Maintenance of Proprietary Articles, and of the P.A.T.A. as its protagonist and most effective exponent. In that survey frank statement was made of the situation to be confronted in the event of a severe economic recession blighting the Commonwealth. The difficulties now-a-days associated with resort to the Stop List—P.A.T.A.'s most formidable weapon—were pointed out. Summed up, it was then stated:—

"The Council is of opinion that no effort should be spared in trying to convince the Government that the Trade Marks Bill (in particular Section 53) should be included, if at all possible, in the legislative programme of the sitting Parliament in that it accords with sound commercial practice and is in the interests of the public. With legal redress available to a manufacturer for infringement of his known price, the instruments which the P.A.T.A. fashioned to effect its purpose could be put away with the bow and arrow."

"The events of the year, both within and without Australia, reinforce weightily the Council's opinion. In the United Kingdom the Attlee Government, in a White Paper, outlined legislative intentions, not only for banning collective price maintenance, as had been recommended in the Lloyd Jacob Committee's report, but to strike at the root of all price protection by denying to a manufacturer his existing right in law to arrange agreements with retailers for observance of a price fixed by him on resale of goods bearing his trade-mark. Late in the year, the Canadian Government passed into law a bill with the same purpose; any form of price maintenance of proprietary articles is now illegal in Canada. About the same time a member of the Government party in the Western Australian Assembly took to the second reading stage a private member's bill which, apparently, had the same object. (It is understood that the bill will not be taken further.)

"Events, therefore, have abundantly justified the course taken by the Council in 1935 in propounding the principle that later found expression in Section 53 of the Commonwealth Trade Marks Bill. In brief—to repeat what has appeared in previous Annual Reports—Section 53 is designed to confer on a manufacturer of goods produced under Trade Mark a right analogous to that already vesting in an owner of Letters Patent under the Patents Act. More explicitly, an owner of a Trade Mark would have the right in law to attach to his proprietary article bearing the Trade Mark a price to be observed on its resale and this would 'run with the goods' and be binding on successive purchasers, so that breach of the known price would constitute infringement of the Trade Mark and be restrainable at law.

"In this connection the Council is happy to quote a timely observation by Mr. Justice Lloyd Jacob, who, before appointment to the Judiciary, was Chairman of the Resale Price Maintenance Committee appointed by the Attlee Government in 1947. Summing up a debate on Resale Price Maintenance before the Rotary Club of Southgate (Eng.), Sir George Lloyd Jacob is thus reported in 'The Pharmaceutical Journal' (December 15, 1951):—

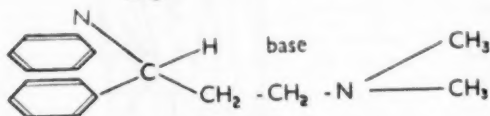
"... in his practice at the Bar he had had a good deal to do with patent and trade mark matters, and it

GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES

Our aim in presenting these references is to give a summary in regard to each product, rather than all the information available in the manufacturers' literature. Their mention in these columns does not imply editorial recommendation. Prices are no longer quoted because of frequent fluctuations.

AVIL

Supplier: Farbwerke Hoechst, Germany. Harper & Edwards, Macquarie street, Prahran, Victoria.
Composition: The p-aminosalicylic acid salt of 1-phenyl-1-pyridyl-(2')-3-dimethyl-aminopropane. An antihistaminic drug.



Indications:
Dosage:

Allergic conditions.
Adults and children receive initial doses of $\frac{1}{2}$ tablet two or three times a day; if necessary this dosage is increased up to 1 tablet three times daily. The tablets should be administered after meals.
In case of intramuscular injection $\frac{1}{2}$ ampoule is given 1-2 times daily, gradually increasing the dosage up to 1-2 ampoules. Infants and young children receive $\frac{1}{4}$ ampoule 1-2 times daily intramuscularly. In acute diseases and cases of emergency repeated doses may be necessary. Avil may also be given slowly intravenously.
Pack: Tablets (50 mg.), tubes of 10 and 20; bottles of 100 and 250.
Ampoules (2 c.c. = 50 mg.), boxes of 5 and 25.

PRIMOGEN M

Supplier:
Composition:
Indications:
Dosage:

Schering Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Tablets containing 0.2 mg. ethinyl oestradiol.
Prostatic carcinoma.
At first, one tablet three times a day for six days. In the ensuing week the dose should be lowered to one tablet twice a day. From the third week onwards the intake of one tablet daily or every other day is generally sufficient.
The tablets have a sugar base, and may be either chewed or swallowed.
Pack: Tablets (0.2 mg.) in tubes of 20 and 150.

NATRINIL Powder

Supplier:
Composition:

The National Drug Company, Philadelphia, U.S.A.
Cation exchange resin of the carboxylic type in the hydrogen-potassium cycle. Hydrogen Cycle 80% and Potassium Cycle 20%. Potassium ions are released in the acid medium of stomach. Natrinil is now 100% Hydrogen Cycle. In the alkaline intestinal tract H ions are exchanged for Na. The Na ions are then adsorbed and carried out of the body.
For sodium withdrawal in the management of congestive heart failure, hypertension, cirrhosis or whenever a "salt-free" or a low sodium diet is required. Contraindications: Where chronic renal lesions are present which may interfere with normal sodium exchange or with ammonia formation.
Side effects: Occasional anorexia, slight nausea or constipation which usually disappeared even upon continued administration of the resin.
Dosage: 40 grammes a day, approx. 4 tablespoonfuls or 4 individual packets, taken in divided doses with each meal and before bedtime. May be mixed with water, liquid or semi-solid foods.
Pack: Bottles of 10 oz. and individual packets of 10 grammes each, boxes of 24.

Indications:

Dosage:

Pack:

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Formalin Throat
Iodised Throat
Penicillin Lozenges
Bronchitis Mixture
Nasal Drops

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South Australia: Mr. W. P. Moore, c/o. Thody's Import & Agencies, Basement, 199 Rundle Street, Adelaide.

Victoria: B. J. Goodman, c/o. Doward & Co., 328 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

Western Australia: Geoff. Martin & Son, 64 Pier Street, Perth.

Queensland: S. H. Stewart, Hamilton Street, Brighton, Sandgate, Brisbane.

Tasmania: H. T. Grounds, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart.

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GUIDE TO NEW PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES (Continued)

PURDIGIN

P.B.A. Item 36

Supplier: Wyeth Inc., Sydney.
Composition: Digitoxin.
Indications: In congestive heart failure and in other cardiac conditions where digitalis is indicated.
Dosage: The dosage is based on weight. The usual digitalising dose is 1.2 mg. This may be divided into two or three doses given at intervals of four to six hours. The average maintenance dose is 0.2 mg. per day. Occasionally as little as 0.1 mg. or as much as 0.3 mg. may be required.
 Children under 12 receive a reduced dose.
 Patients already digitalised can be given Purdigin without interrupting the treatment by substituting 0.1 mg. of Purdigin for each 0.1 Gm. (1½ gr.) of digitalis leaf prescribed.
 Less digitalisation is required in elderly patients with disease of the coronary arteries.
Pack: Tablets (pink) of 0.1 mg., 100.
 Tablets (white) of 0.2 mg., 100.

B12 with FOLIC ACID "Tab-Vita"

Supplier: Nicholas Pty. Ltd., Melbourne.
Composition: Tablets containing vitamin B12 12.5 microgram with folic acid 0.84 mg.
Indications: Macrocytic anaemias and for the stimulation of sub-normal growth in children.
Dosage: Two-four tablets per day for adults with macrocytic anaemias, but should be adjusted to the individual response of the patient. Two tablets per day may prove an average dose, although initial dosage may need to be higher. One tablet per day should be adequate as a growth stimulant for children.
Pack: Tablets individually wrapped in aluminium foil "Sealtite" in cartons of 100 tablets.

VITAMIN A (Crookes)

Supplier: The Crookes Laboratories Ltd., London.
Indications: In the treatment of certain affections of structures of ectodermal origin, etc.
Dosage: Deafness and tinnitus, 50,000 i.u. intramuscularly twice weekly.
 Senile keratosis, 150,000 i.u. orally daily.
 Vulvar Leukoplakia, 250,000-500,000 i.u. orally daily or 50,000 i.u. intramuscularly twice weekly.
Pack: Capsules (3 minims containing 33,000 i.u.), bottles of 25, 100.
 Ampoules (1 c.c. containing 100,000 i.u.), boxes of 6.

KINADEN

P.B.A. Item 80

Supplier: Schering Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: Hyaluronidase.
Indications: For acceleration of absorption of solutions injected subcutaneously, and to increase anaesthetic area in local anaesthesia.
Dosage: One ampoule (10 Schering units) facilitates the infusion of large amounts of fluids.
Pack: Ampoules (10 Schering units), boxes of 3 and 24 with solvent.

CORICIDIN

Supplier: Schering Pty. Ltd., Sydney.
Composition: Tablets containing antihistamine "Chlor-Trimeton" 2 mg. with aspirin 3.5 gr., phenacetin 2.5 gr. and caffeine 0.5 gr.
Indications: Common cold.
Dosage: Two tablets at first indication of cold, then one tablet every three or four hours for three or four days. In established colds, one tablet every three or four hours for palliative effect.
Pack: Tubes of 12 tablets and bottles of 100 tablets.

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HOBART: H. GROUNDS, 4 Victoria Street, Hobart 3511.

BRISBANE: L. W. D. ROCHAIX & CO., 90-92 Eagle Street. BO 677.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

had crossed his mind that in this matter of price maintenance a possible solution of the problem acceptable to manufacturers, distributors and the public might be found in a similar control of the statutory monopoly conferred by registration under the Trade Marks Act as is provided in respect of Letters Patent by the Patent Act."

"As this is precisely what Section 53 aims to do it is highly encouraging to have so weighty an authority as Mr. Justice Lloyd Jacob independently propounding the principle.

"**Obituary.**—The Council records with regret the passing during the year of Mr. J. L. Millier, who, on occasions, acted as a member of the Council as a wholesaler's representative."

The personnel of the elected Council was declared as follows:—

Manufacturer Section.—Messrs. F. Borchardt (Rickard Medical Products Pty. Ltd.); W. R. E. Henderson (British Medical Laboratories Pty. Ltd.); N. V. Kerr (Elliot & Australian Drug Pty. Ltd.); E. H. Kidger (Menley & James, Colonial, Ltd.); J. H. Lange (The Denver Chemical Manufacturing Co.); W. A. Patterson (Douglas Drug Coy.); and G. Percival (Allen & Hambury's (A'asia) Ltd.).

Retailer Section.—Messrs. A. G. Barber, H. D. B. Cox, F. M. Davidson, A. C. Fraser, O. V. Leggo, J. Little and J. L. Stormon.

Messrs. Holt & Thompson, Chartered Accountants (Australia), were re-elected Auditors.

ADDRESS BY MR. C. W. MAPLETHORPE.

Introducing Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe, Ph.C., F.R.I.C., A.M.I. Chem. E., to members of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales at "History House," 8 Young Street, Sydney, on April 16, the Society President (Mr. Cartwright) asked him to address the assemblage.

Mr. Maplethorpe said as Chairman of the Education Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain he had spent years agitating for improvement



Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe.

in the education of pharmacists. In 1946 he had demanded a two years' final course, and he wanted it quickly because pharmacy was not keeping up with the other learned professions.

Many people in Great Britain liked the old system and thought it quite adequate — good enough to turn out plain "everyday" registered pharmacists. However, they became fogged when asked to define the term "everyday." This was putting pharmacy on a low level.

It was finally decided that the course should be capable of preparing the graduate for work in either research, analytical, manufacturing, or retail pharmacy, because at the commencement it was not known to what position he might aspire (some might even be incautious enough to become general managers or managing directors).

The course was now at the stage of two years post-intermediate training for the Society's diploma. As stated in reply to a question from Professor Berry, the object of the course was to produce a good all-round man, who could take any job when qualified.

On the question of "how to teach," committees were set up to deal with the four main subjects; it being quickly recognised that students must be taught to think, so as to produce a pharmacist who would not only understand the B.P. 1948, but appreciate the 2058 edition because he had been soundly trained.

It was necessary to lift up the teaching — there had been a very poor history of teaching in Great Britain. When the Society first got its charter, one object was the furtherance of pharmaceutical education; accordingly it set up the first school in England where practical pharmacy was taught at all. However, the standard was appallingly low until 1919.

A high standard in any profession was desirable, because others measured us by our own standards. If we set a high standard others would appreciate we valued our profession and were not to be trifled with.

Degree in Pharmacy.

There were six Universities in England granting degrees in Pharmacy. The degree necessitated a three years' full-time post-intermediate training period at the University. The courses were not rigidly standardised. At London University during the first two years subjects to make up the qualification were taught, and in the last year, any two subjects as agreed with the Professors. At Leeds the bias was on pharmacology, turning out pharmacists who could take an important part in industry as pharmacologists, and so play a vital part in the life of the nation.

Registration of Pharmacists.

Mr. Maplethorpe said the Society had retained the right of registration of pharmacists. When seeking to register, the applicant must produce evidence of having passed the academic examination, and of having received one year's practical training with a pharmacist. In addition, he must pass the Society's examination in "Forensic Pharmacy."

With rising inflexion Mr. Maplethorpe said:—

"You are going the whole way, like some of us would have liked to have gone. You have a three-years' full-time University course and then one year in the pharmacy."

"I should like to congratulate Pharmacy in New South Wales for being so progressive."

Mr. Maplethorpe said he was annoyed at the self-abnegating phrase: "Pharmacy is the hand-maiden of medicine." Pharmacy was not the hand-maiden of anything; we were professional people in our own right. British Columbia had jumped one leap to a four years' final course. All over the world this process was going on. The problem of education transcended anything else. Pharmacists must be properly trained.

Many people had said that if the standard was increased there would be nobody coming into Pharmacy, but he had not believed it. Young people cherished other things than money. So they went ahead with the two years' full-time training, making 1948 the deadline for the old system to end. A lot rushed in to qualify under the old system, so that there was a flat time for a period, but now more applicants were com-

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

ing forward for registration than ever before. Many were wanting to do the three years' course and gain their degree in pharmacy.

Some people said if you have a "B.Pharm." the youngster will think he knows more than the boss. Well, he probably did know more. Mr. Maplethorpe added he had engaged a dozen young B.Pharm. men in his business and received nothing but satisfaction from them.

"You don't need advice from me," said Mr. Maplethorpe, "I am only preaching to the converted."

"If you say the young B.Pharm. is far too clever, and knows more than the boss—that is right, but he will be a real asset to pharmacy."

Regarding recent trends in pharmacy in Great Britain, an important job had been the tackling of the National Health Service. The pharmacists had had to face up for a full pharmaceutical service for everyone. The scheme started early in July, 1948. It had been forecast at first that a large part of the population would not make use of the Health Service, but this prediction was found to be wide of the mark. Almost everybody had taken advantage of the National Health Service, only a small number remained outside. The introduction of the scheme had done away with the dispensing doctor, who previously dished out drugs. This went overboard when the N.H.S. got under way.

There were now many openings in pharmacy. The big hospitals now gave a first-class pharmaceutical service. The N.H.S. had been of benefit to pharmacists both from a professional and a business standpoint. The scheme had put pharmacy in its correct place. Newer drugs had been introduced which called for greater knowledge on the pharmacist's part than in the past. The doctors knew of the drugs and expected the pharmacist to tell them how and where to use them. The pharmacist should be in a position to advise the doctor—that was the reason for his advanced professional training. Pharmacists should know what is in tablets, injectibles, etc., which they handle. They should be taught pharmacology especially.

Mr. Maplethorpe continued that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain had a publications department which had been greatly expanded since the war. It produced the B.P.C., Martindale; and now had a most ambitious task, the production of the first British Veterinary Codex. No book of its kind had been produced before. The publications department had sought and obtained advice from all over the world. It was trying to produce a book of the widest possible use. The Society looked on its publication as closely linked up with the educational system for pharmacists. The Society had its own weekly journal and the monthly journal of pharmacy and pharmacology. A new book on Antibiotics generally was coming out.

As for trends in pharmacy, pharmacy had shaken itself out of its pre-war lethargic condition; had set itself up properly and had tackled the National Health Service very well. The Society had improved its publications, and was developing its activities to better enable the pharmacist to practice his profession.

Mr. Maplethorpe resumed his seat to prolonged applause.

Questions.

Mr. Cartwright then invited questions.

Professor Thorp asked Mr. Maplethorpe to explain what was meant by so many years post-intermediate. The words had a different meaning in N.S.W. Professor Thorp also enquired when the Veterinary Codex would be available.

Mr. Maplethorpe replied that in Great Britain the Intermediate Examination was taken after one year's

training in Basic Sciences at the University; therefore, it was a three years' course for the Society's Diploma, and a four years' course for the degree in pharmacy. However, there had been introduced a general certificate of education, the bright boys stayed at school until 17 years of age, and were then exempted from the Intermediate Examination at the University. They took this examination at school by the general certificate of education.

Regarding the Veterinary Codex, Mr. Maplethorpe said it would be very safe to say it would be available by mid-1953.

Mr. Healy, of Leichhardt, enquired whether the remuneration of the pharmacist had been increased in conformity with his improved educational conditions. With the lag in N.H.S. payments was it difficult for him to carry on?

Mr. Maplethorpe replied that it was not more costly now for the pharmacist to qualify than before; the training still occupied only four years. The pharmacist was not getting more pay as the educational improvements had only started recently.

Mr. Powell enquired if the Society's examination in Forensic Pharmacy of the course was limited to theoretical or practical matters. Was the examination a matter of course, or did a lot of candidates fail? Was it a real hurdle or not so?

Mr. Maplethorpe said the examination in Forensic Pharmacy was not a great worry to students. The examination occupied two hours, and most candidates passed in one attempt.

A questioner referred to the examination and degrees awarded by different Universities. As education was regionalised, how was the standard co-ordinated?

Mr. Maplethorpe said there was the Society's examination, and in addition six Universities all granting degrees in pharmacy. The Pharmaceutical Society was the registering body, and before recognising degrees it had discussed with the respective Universities the standards necessary. Each university was quite autonomous.

Mr. Thomas said he had one question to ask — the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme was akin to the N.H.S. in Great Britain. He had read garbled statements that there had been a 50 per cent. cut on costs and containers, whereas the Scottish pharmacists were paid in accordance with better terms. Mr. Thomas enquired whether there was a great deal of clerical work involved, and what was pharmacy's general reaction to the N.H.S. scheme?

Mr. Maplethorpe said he thought the pharmacists had benefited generally, but he did not know what had happened since February. The negotiations with the Scottish pharmacists were separate and they had received a better deal in Scotland. The Government was behind with the pricing, and they might go to the pharmacist asking him to accept a sum of money and then pull down the blind and start again.

Mr. Plunkett referred to the fact that the graduate could do his final year practical work in a manufacturing house or a hospital and then receive full registration. Was this satisfactory for a man who would be going into retail pharmacy?

Mr. Maplethorpe said the risk had been taken and it seemed quite all right.

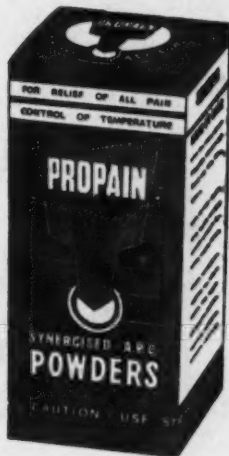
Mr. Turner enquired whether small pharmacists had gone in for equipment and the manufacture of their own injectibles.

Mr. Maplethorpe said the position varied a great deal. Some did none at all, while others were licensed under the Antibiotic Act and carried out considerable work of this nature.

Mr. Cartwright conveyed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Maplethorpe for his splendid address, which had been enjoyed to the full by those present.

Mr. Hall moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Maplethorpe, which was carried by acclamation.

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales met at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on May 6, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. K. A. Cartwright (Chairman), J. L. Townley, A. F. Winterton, R. C. Tottenham, W. R. Cutler, J. F. Plunkett, K. H. Powell, E. G. Hall, A. W. West and B. G. Fegent.

Death of Mr. H. W. Read's Father.—It was reported that Mr. Read's father had passed away. The Council decided to send a letter of condolence to Mr. Read in his bereavement.

Late Meetings at Science House.—Mr. Hall requested that the Guild be apprised of the complaint made by "Science House" regarding the multiplicity of late meetings.

New Members Elected.—Horace Ernest Johnson, Sydney; Donald Stuart McArthur, Orange; Paul Vincent O'Mullane, Walcha; Bennet James Parle, Turramurra.

Reinstatement: Ronald William Kaine, Darling Point.

Advanced to Full Membership: Elsie Margaret Beck, Hurstville; James Julian Bryant, Kirribilli; Umberto Silvio Cincotta, Concord West; Leslie James Crawford, Dulwich Hill; Iris Sivia Mendelsohn, Bellevue Hill; John Alexander McDonald, Petersham; Lionel Gregory Phegan, North Sydney; Roy Sneddon Peters, Bexley; Kathleen Mary Tarlington, Austimner; George William Winter Tasker, Thornleigh; John Francis Trim-boli, Darling Point.

Associate Members: Ann Marie Cavanough, Albert Edward Cooper, Ivan John Cunning, Jack Hillman, Barry Hughes, Warwick Kingston Anderson, Colin A. Plummer, Edgar Small, Bertrand Russell Pearce.

Science Congress.—Mr. Cutler said the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand would hold a two-days' meeting after the Science Congress had concluded. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss pharmaceutical education throughout the Commonwealth.

Country Visits, 1952.

Visit to Goulburn, April 20.—Mr. Fegent tabled a report of the meeting prepared by Mr. Attiwill.

Mr. Cutler said the meeting had been worthwhile, the pharmacists in that zone were a fine body of men.

Mr. Fegent said a report of the meeting together with photographs had appeared in the "A.J.P." of April 30 (p. 318).

Visit to Bathurst, May 4.—Mr. Hall said that until last Wednesday everyone was under the impression that the matter had all been arranged, but when Mr. Blomfield returned to Bathurst from Sydney he found that only a very small number of zone members would be able to attend. He suggested that the meeting should be postponed. In addition, Mr. Powell became ill, Mr. Wright and Professor Thorp were heavily engaged, and could not have attended; then the death of Mr. Read's father would finally have precluded his attendance.

It was decided to hold over the Bathurst visit until September.

Meeting at Newcastle, May 20.—The Secretary said that a civic reception by His Worship, the Mayor (Alderman Armstrong), would take place at 12.30 p.m., at the Town Hall. A visit to the coke ovens and by-products manufactories of the B.H.P. was being arranged. The meeting would be held at night, when a special agenda would be presented. It was proposed that members of the Mid-Northern Pharmacists' Association should join in the discussions. This was approved.

Annual Dinner, Thursday, June 12, at the Carlton Hotel.—After discussion of costs it was resolved to fix

the price of tickets at £2/10/- each. Tickets to be available to any member of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Refresher Lectures Commencing on June 2, 1952.—After considerable discussion it was decided to forward circulars to members of the Society as previously the custom.

First-Year Apprentices' Lectures Commencing on June 3, 1952.—The Secretary said that circulars had been sent out to the apprentices.

Mr. Hall said that Mr. Gostelow would be commencing the lectures this year.

It was decided to pay Mr. Gostelow for his services during 1951—account to be obtained from Mr. Gostelow.

It was mentioned that the marking of the examination papers occupied considerable time, for which the examiners did not receive any payment.

Visit of Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe.—Cocktail Party, "Merrybyn," May 9, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Cartwright produced the present he had obtained for Mr. and Mrs. Maplethorpe—a silver boomerang set with an opal. It was decided to engrave the present: "From the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, May, 1952."

Accreditation Bureau.—Meeting to be held on May 29. It was decided to invite the Commonwealth Department of Health to send a representative to the meeting.

Report on "A.J.P."—Mr. Plunkett inquired if the reports were to be continued.

It was decided that Mr. Plunkett and Mr. West should bring under the notice of the Council anything in the "A.J.P." of special importance, from time to time.

Report From Science Group.—Mr. West reported that Mr. Wright had given a lecture at last meeting on "Buffered Solutions."

Correspondence.—From Mr. R. C. Tottenham, tendering his resignation as a member of the Society Council. Mr. Cartwright said he was extremely sorry to receive the resignation. Councillors generally pressed Mr. Tottenham to reconsider his decision to resign.

Mr. Tottenham said he was sorry, but he had come to the decision to resign and circumstances would not permit him to withdraw his resignation. Mr. Tottenham said that the Guild and the Society must work together in harmony—it was very important that they should do so.

Mr. Cartwright said the Society Council was losing a very excellent councillor.

Mr. Hall said he heard of Mr. Tottenham's resignation with the utmost regret. He moved that it be placed on record the notable work carried out by Mr. Tottenham, firstly as a councillor, then as President, and subsequently as a past president. He was sorry that Mr. Tottenham could not see his way clear to carry on.

Mr. Cutler supported Mr. Hall's remarks. Mr. Tottenham had been the first recipient in N.S.W. of the Diploma of Pharmacy. Mr. Cutler said he had had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Tottenham right through the whole of his career as a member of the Society Council. During the meeting of Section "O" in Brisbane in 1951, Mr. Tottenham had put the coping stone on the discussion regarding pharmaceutical education. No report was so well received as Mr. Tottenham's. Mr. Cutler concluded that he was proud of Mr. Tottenham.

From Mr. C. Maplethorpe, thanking the Society Council for the honour they had conferred upon him. Regretting cannot attend Council meeting, but is looking forward to meeting councillors at the cocktail party.

P.A.N.Z., posting under separate cover six copies of a report of meeting of the Executive of the Association held on April 3. Asking that attention be drawn to the discussion on Pharmaceutical Education, and requesting that States be asked to submit their comments. Suggesting that a meeting of representatives be held in Sydney in August, after a meeting of Section "O." Received.

Mr. Cutler said that Kodak (A'asia) Pty. Ltd. had given £1000 to send an eligible student overseas. Matter to be considered in greater detail at next meeting.



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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

P.A.A.N.Z., inquiring if this Society required copies of a reprint of the A.P.F., Chemists' Edition, price of reprint 8/6, to be sold at 10/6.

Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia, enclosing copies of report of Executive of Federal Council. Asking that consideration be given to the recommendation that a committee consisting of the executives of the N.S.W. Society with a nominee of the teaching staff be set up to consider applications for the Kodak Travelling Scholarship; also asking if the Society is a subscribing member to the International Pharmaceutical Federation. To be considered further at next meeting.

Mr. F. C. Kent, Editor, "A.J.P.": (1) regarding the receipt of news items from this State for publication in the Journal. Received. (2) Advising that owing to cost of printing of the "A.J.P." and limitation of space, in future it will be necessary, on present indications, to curtail the size of reports of annual and other special meetings. Noted.

Chief Secretary's Department, advising that the drug known as "Dromoran" will be gazetted under the Police Offences (Amendment) Act. Received.

R.S.S.A.I.L.A. Chemists' Sub-Branch, advising that at their annual general meeting the following motion was carried unanimously: "That this Sub-Branch heartily supports any action taken by official pharmacy to maintain its status quo." It was decided that the action committee of the Drug Trade Defence Council be informed of the resolution of the Chemists' Sub-Branch, and asked that the action committee frame a method of putting the sub-branch's views before the Minister for Health.

R.S.S.A.I.L.A. Chemists' Sub-Branch, requesting that in the event of a joint committee being set up in the interest of maintaining the status quo of pharmacy, that the sub-branch be accorded representation. Noted.

Mr. A. P. Sourry, Katoomba, attaching copy of constitution and rules of the Blue Mountains Pharmacist Association, and asking for advice on certain points. The Secretary's reply was endorsed.

Mr. J. E. Clifton, Crookwell: (1) concerning the likelihood of the introduction of a new Poisons Act; (2) regarding the new Poisons Act.—It was decided to refer these communications to the Pharmacy Board.

General Business: Mr. Hall inquired if the composite photograph had been picked up yet.

Code of Ethics.—Mr. Hall raised the question of enforcement of an ethical code. It was decided to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

THE GUILD

**S.B.C.
Meeting**

(Abridged Report.)

The State Branch Committee of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild met at "Science House," 157 Gloucester Street, Sydney, on April 17, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. L. W. Smith (Chairman), W. F. Pinerua, R. W. Feller, R. K. Strang, K. E. Thomas, W. G. Sapsford, R. S. Leece, O. C. V. Leggo, K. Jordan, L. M. Fox, A. C. Fraser, K. Attiwill and A. E. Conolly.

Death of Archibald Gordon Short.—Mr. Smith said it was his sad duty to make reference to the passing of one of his most esteemed colleagues, the late Archibald Short. He had known Mr. Short extremely well and had a very high regard for him. He had been a pharmacist without peer. Everyone paid a great respect to his opinion on matters of importance.

Mr. Fraser said he would like to place on record the tremendous help which Mr. Short had been to the

Guild. He had also helped the speaker in Guild duties and in chiropody work; therefore the sense of loss felt by the State Branch Committee was doubled in his case.

Mr. Attiwill said that Mr. Short's advice had helped him to assimilate the complicated background of pharmacy.

Country Meetings—Attendance with Representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society.—Mr. Smith enquired the opinions of the State Branch Committeemen as to Guild representatives attending meetings with the Pharmaceutical Society.

After discussion, it was resolved that Mr. Smith advise the President of the Society that the State Branch Committee would be glad to send a delegate with the Society representatives to meetings held in country towns.

Committeeman in the Room of Mr. G. R. Mallam. Resigned.—The matter of election of a new committeeman was put to the vote, and Mr. V. Bradford declared elected.

Pharmaceutical Education.—It was reported that the amending Act to the Pharmacy Act had received the Royal Assent.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The President said that copies of the Federal Council minutes had been circulated.

Reports of Sub-Committees were dealt with, as follows:—

(A) Trade and Commerce, Planning and Publicity.—Report of meeting held on March 17, as circulated, was discussed.

Advertising Campaign: A.C.A. — The meeting inspected circulars which A.C.A. Ltd. desired the Guild to send out with the Guild Service Bulletin. The matter was referred to Mr. Leggo for investigation, as the circulars were too bulky for distribution with the Bulletin.

Correspondence. — Federal Merchandising Manager: (1) Concerned that the matter of a chemist only contract for Relaxa-Tabs. should be given serious consideration. After discussion, it was decided to recommend that a Guild contract be completed in respect of Relaxa-Tabs. as a Guild contract line, in N.S.W. (2) Advising cannot give any idea when further supplies of "Gilseal" Dye Stripper can be expected in view of the bad state of the sulphur supply position. (3) Advising that Sanders Chemical Co. will take up the question of manufacturing a suitable dye for Messrs. Wilkin & Jones for dyeing Sisal. (4) Advising that "Gilseal" Hat Dyes can be topped up with methylated spirit.

From a member, Goulburn, regarding illegal discounts. Presumes definite evidence would consist of written admission by the giver or the receiver of the illegal discounts. Regarding previous complaint, investigations were so localised and hush-hush and the penalty so puny, has come to the opinion that the Guild does not wish these happenings to be broadcast among chemists as a warning. Is quite capable of dealing with local cutting by similar measures. Enquiring the price at which one can sell Veganins 100's to nurses, dentists, clergymen and policemen. Received.

(B) Lodge, Hospital and Repatriation Dispensing Sub-Committee.

Meeting held at "Science House," on April 7 at 8 p.m.

Lodge Dispensing.—(1) Mr. Feller reported on the conference with the Friendly Societies' representatives held in the Minister's room on March 31, with Messrs. L. Miller, E. Dempster, A. J. Eade and Barr. The Minister had suggested a further conference between two representatives of the Guild and two from the Friendly Societies' Association, but later the Association had written refusing to attend a further conference.

(2) In connection with the agreement signed with the Catholic Friendly Societies' Medical Services' Fund to dispense for affiliated societies, the secretary said re-

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NEW SOUTH WALES (Continued)

ceipt forms would need to be printed. It was decided to order 1200 books of 50 receipt forms each. It was also decided to order 100 copies of the "Catholic Weekly," in which the article on lodge dispensing agreement appeared. It was further decided to discuss with Mr. Macdonald, at an appropriate time, proposed dodgers for the chemists' counter regarding the Catholic Friendly Societies' Medical Services' Fund.

(C) **Pricing.**—Mr. Thomas said no meeting had been held, but matters had been attended to.

Containers.—The application previously lodged had been withdrawn as the prices of containers had increased. Mr. Leece had made out a new application form showing the amended prices. It was decided to lodge the fresh application and to send Mr. Jewkes, at Canberra, copies of the new wholesale prices.

Abridged Dispensing List.—Mr. Thomas said that Mr. Fox had prepared the abridged dispensing list, and the stencils had been supplied for proofing. They appeared to be in order and would be sent out with the Guild Service Bulletin.

Concerning Aqua Chlorof., Mr. Thomas said the Drug Houses could not include it at a more rational price, but would be agreeable to delete it altogether from their price lists. It was decided to forward to Federal Office a request asking them to contact the wholesalers suggesting that Aqua Chlorof. be deleted from their price lists.

Retail Prices of Solid and Liquid Prescription Proprieties.—Mr. Sapsford had prepared this table — an abridged price list of prescription proprieties. It was decided to publish them in the "Guild Service Bulletin."

Mr. Smith said credit was due to the men who assisted Mr. Thomas — namely, Mr. Leece, Mr. Fox and Mr. Sapsford.

(D) **Industrial.**—Mr. Smith said there was nothing further to report at this stage.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

VICTORIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State
News

Dr. Frank Andrew Aird, B.D.Sc., D.D.Sc., has been appointed President of the Dental Board of Victoria.

Mr. John M. Parker, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Tatura, has been appointed a Registrar of Births and Deaths at Tatura.

Birth.—On April 13, at the Queen Victoria Hospital, to Jock and Babette Wastell, a son (John Richard). Congratulations.

MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS.

The following appointments were notified during the month:—

Mr. H. J. B. Dixon fulfilled relieving appointments with Mr. H. C. Bath, Charlton, and Mr. J. S. R. Barker, Castlemaine.

Miss V. C. Richards was in charge of Mr. W. R. Bell's pharmacy, Warracknabeal, during his absence.

Mr. G. N. Morrisby acted as manager of Mr. P. J. Graham's pharmacy, at Wedderburn, for four weeks.

During Mr. J. W. Hayward's absence **Mr. R. G. Matson** relieved at U.F.S. Dispensary, Port Melbourne.

Mrs. U. M. Bartley was in charge of Mr. J. B. Hol-
low's pharmacy, North Fitzroy, during May.

Mr. L. D. Holstock relieved Mr. G. A. Lansdown, of
Essendon, who was married on May 3. After his return
Mr. Holstock went to Fitzroy and relieved Mr. H. J.
O'Halloran.

Mrs. Howlett acted as relieving manager at Beacham's
Pharmacy, Australia Arcade, Melbourne, for one month,
while Mr. A. Gough was on holiday.

Mr. F. C. James has accepted a position with Mr.
A. G. Davis, Preston.

Miss Wilma M. Jones fulfilled relieving appointments
with Miss M. J. Dear, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, and
Miss C. L. Cameron, West Footscray.

Mr. M. Kelliher acted as locum for Mr. J. Russell,
Bridge Street, Ballarat.

Mr. R. H. Straker, Upper Hawthorn, was relieved by
Mr. H. N. Lemmon.

During Mr. D. L. Nuttall's holiday, Mr. J. Miller will
be in charge of his pharmacy at Kyabram.

Mr. A. R. Osbourne assisted Mr. A. F. Abfalter, Haw-
thorn, and Mr. V. Gild, Melbourne, before accepting a
permanent position with Messrs. Witt and Co.,
Pahran.

Mrs. H. D. Pout acted as locum for Miss M. Solley,
Sandringham, and Mr. J. A. J. Warry, North Caulfield.

Mr. A. D. Hogan assisted Mr. L. W. Read, Eildon,
for three weeks and acted as manager during the
period he was absent.

Mr. W. J. Taylor was with Morrow's Pharmacy,
Daylesford, during May.

During Mr. E. H. Trathan's vacation, Mr. R. E.
Trathan will be relieving manager of the pharmacy,
South Melbourne.

Mr. R. J. Tighe was at Shepparton for five weeks
while Mr. A. Rigg was on holiday.

Mr. J. K. Trinder relieved Mr. A. K. Lloyd, Pardey
& Co., Geelong, before going to Bond's Pharmacy,
Wycheproof.

Mrs. R. Zylberberg acted as locum for Mr. A. W.
Dusting, Melbourne, and Mr. T. J. Chambers, Mur-
rumbeena.

During his absence, Mrs. Aitchison will be in charge
of Mr. F. G. A. Long's pharmacy, Mont Albert.

Mr. D. Evans was temporarily in charge of Mr. J.
Weymouth's pharmacy, Trafalgar.

Mr. A. W. Wright was at Bairnsdale in charge of
Mr. W. Ashdale Smith's pharmacy.

Mr. C. Williams is with Mr. A. J. V. Thomas, Mal-
vern, for an indefinite period.

Miss V. Todd acted as locum for Mr. L. N. Hender-
son, Donald, for three weeks.

Mr. S. F. Byrnes, Preston, was relieved by Mr. G.
Tall.

Mr. A. Shaw fulfilled relieving appointments with
Mr. P. Bertold, Healesville, and Mr. G. E. Bradbury,
Omeo.

Miss M. Shellow acted as locum for Mr. N. F. Keith,
Ashburton.

Mr. W. J. Taylor was at Morrow's Pharmacy, Dayles-
ford, for the month of May.

Mrs. Penman will be relieving for Mr. L. G. Langs-
ford, Stawell, until the end of July.

Mr. J. Pyman acted for Mr. G. H. Cooke, Mont.
Albert, for five weeks.

Mr. D. McEwan has been at the U.F.S. Dispensary,
Sunshine.

Miss L. F. Rennie assisted Mr. G. E. Hayes, at
Croydon.

Miss K. Lyons acted as locum for Mr. H. C. Morie-
son, Camberwell.

Mr. B. McClusky was in charge of Mr. H. G.
Macdonald's pharmacy, Rosebud, for two weeks.

Mr. H. W. Jones, Dimboola, was relieved by Mr.
D. A. Emonson.

Mr. A. P. Fry was in charge of Mr. J. F. Hiscock's
pharmacy, Cobden.

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VICTORIA (Continued)

Mr. L. F. Gurry acted as locum for Mr. L. M. Keane, Terang.

Mr. G. F. Foley was in charge of Mr. R. S. Twiddy's pharmacy, Middle Brighton, during his absence.

Mr. J. Ferguson was in charge of Mr. A. E. Lawton's pharmacy, Maldon, for three weeks.

Mr. C. D. Everett acted as reliever for Mr. C. B. Hayes, Oakleigh, and Mr. N. E. Vince, Carlton.

Mrs. G. Pearson is managing Crundall's pharmacy, Windsor.

Mr. Geoffrey Troup has been appointed manager of Mr. E. D. Casper's pharmacy, in Ascot Vale.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Mr. R. D. O'Day has purchased Miss C. J. Delahunty's pharmacy, Rupanyup.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hayes have purchased Mr. R. A. McFarlane's pharmacy, Croydon.

Mr. R. C. Fuller has purchased Mr. H. S. M. Wheeler's pharmacy, Cobram.

Mr. P. H. Hastings has purchased Mr. J. C. Charles' pharmacy, Yarram.

Mr. M. Absatz has purchased Miss V. Todd's pharmacy, 117 Kangaroo Road, Oakleigh.

Mr. R. S. Opray has purchased Mr. J. I. Darling's pharmacy, 307 Barkly Street, Footscray.

NEW PHARMACIES.

Mr. H. N. Hammet has opened a pharmacy at 351 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong.

Mrs. M. G. Ley (nee Hynes) has opened a pharmacy at 90 Charman Road, Mentone.

Mr. L. N. Harmer has opened a pharmacy at Springvale Road, Glenwaverley.

Mr. C. W. MAPLETHORPE AT BALLARAT



Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe (Gt. Brit.) with Ballarat Chemists. Left to right: Mr. Maplethorpe, Mr. W. J. Cornell, Mr. C. P. A. Taylor, Mr. Percival (Allen and Hanbury's Manager in Australia). (See "A.J.P." April 30, 1952, page 375, for note re Mr. Maplethorpe's visit to Ballarat.)

SIGMA ELECTION

Mr. F. N. Lee, Vice-President of the State Branch Committee of the Guild, has been elected a Director of Sigma Co. Ltd.

Mr. Lee is a son of the late Frederick Lee, a former President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.



Mr. F. N. Lee.

He qualified at the Final Examination (Vic.) in March, 1927, and in that year took over the pharmacy which he now conducts at Thornbury.

Mr. Lee has been a delegate of No. 5 Guild District to the State Branch Committee since 1944. He was State Treasurer from 1945 to 1947, and became Vice-President in 1947. He has been a Federal delegate to the Federal Council of the Guild since 1947, and a member of the Public Relations Committee since 1949.

In 1949 Mr. Lee became Editor of "Gilseal News," which publication he reorganised. He has represented the Victorian Branch of the Guild at pharmaceutical conferences at Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Brisbane.

Other activities include membership of the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee.

During Mr. Eric Scott's absence abroad in 1951, Mr. Lee acted as a member of the Federal Executive of the Guild.

WARNING.

Bogus Doctor Passing Valueless Cheques.

Reports have been received that a man posing as a medical practitioner has victimised several chemists in Victoria by cashing valueless cheques.

The person is described as about 30 years of age, well-spoken, and of good appearance. He claims to be a medical practitioner, and when operating in the metropolitan area stated that he was proceeding to the country to take over a practice.

The name used was Raymond Allan Ramsay, and cheques were drawn on the Bank of New South Wales, Malvern, Victoria.

Precautions should be taken against cashing cheques for any person claiming to be a medical practitioner, and who is not known personally.



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ENQUIRIES INVITED

VICTORIA (Continued)

OBITUARY.

Arthur Leslie William Jones.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Arthur Leslie William Jones, which occurred on May 13, at his residence, 45 Aberdeen Street, Essendon, after an illness extending over some months.

Mr. Jones, who was aged 69, was widely respected and esteemed by colleagues throughout the pharmaceutical profession, with which he was very closely associated. Mr. Jones was the son of Mr. J. A. Jones, a registered pharmaceutical chemist, who conducted pharmacies at Caulfield and Essendon.

Mr. A. L. W. Jones qualified in 1905, and throughout the great part of his pharmaceutical career was closely identified with all movements for the advancement of pharmacy. He was a member of the Pharmacy Board from 1928 to 1951 and Honorary Treasurer from 1938 to 1951; a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria from 1919 to 1946, President from 1925 to 1928, and Honorary Treasurer from 1928 to 1946; a Director of Pharmaceutical Defence Limited from 1933, and a member of the Board of Management of the Journal from 1938 to 1950.

During the early days of the war Mr. Jones suffered a serious blow by the death of his only son, Graeme, who, at the time was apprenticed to him, and who lost his life in performance of his duty as a bomber pilot in the war against Japan.

Mr. Jones has two brothers qualified in pharmacy, Allan Murray (1920) and Harold Morrison (1925). He is survived by a widow and daughter, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

TRIBUTES FROM COLLEAGUES.

From Mr. D. A. Cossar:

With the passing of Mr. A. L. W. Jones I have lost a very dear pal.

My first association with Les was a happy one. He relieved me for several weeks when I went on my honeymoon. The friendship started then (over 45 years ago) developed into a very sincere affection.

For a number of years we worked together on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Repatriation Checking Committee.

Only those who came into close contact with Mr. Jones knew the enormous amount of work he did for the advancement of pharmacy. He gave of his best for a great many years to all of the official bodies in pharmacy—Board, Council, P.D.L.

We know of no one who in the last 30 years gave so much of his time and ability so unstintingly for the advancement of conditions in our craft.

As Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society he did sterling work, and no one could but be impressed by the kindness of his disposition and sincere desire to help anyone in distress. Frequently he devoted hours of his time in efforts to help someone who had fallen on hard times.

In his home life Les Jones was devoted to his wife and family. The loss of his son on active service was a great blow. That and the hard work he did for pharmacy took its toll.

Our profession is the poorer for his passing.

From Mr. S. J. A. Fripp:

The new students, including "Les" Jones and the writer, were assembling outside the College in February, 1901. A passing youngster said to his mate "Boy Wanted." A natural inference which we both remembered with mirth. We had played school cricket, visited the Blue Mountains, and crossed Tasmania together on bicycles, and now we met to start lectures. His father and my tutor—the late Mr. A. R. Bailey—

bought leeches caught by us in the ponds at the Caulfield racecourse. We qualified within a year of each other, 1904 and 1905, and the almost fraternal relationship lasted until his demise. Throughout the association, cheerfulness, constancy, sincerity, courtesy and goodwill were features of his character. In his home, in the pharmacy, in service of his craft, in social and business life he was always the same. Mournfully and imperfectly I add my tribute to the memory of Arthur Leslie Jones, Gentleman.

George Herbert Bartleman.

We regret to report the death of Mr. George Herbert Bartleman which occurred on May 12.

Mr. Bartleman held the minor certificate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which he gained in 1903. He was registered in Victoria in September, 1908.

For some years Mr. Bartleman has been in retirement. In his early days in Victoria he was in business in North Fitzroy and Mont Albert, and took a prominent interest in the affairs of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association. He was one of the first Directors of Sigma Co. Ltd. He was keenly interested in the business side of pharmacy, and had progressive ideas in regard to merchandising.

Maximilian Landmann.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Max Landmann, which occurred suddenly at his residence, Auburn, on May 17. Mr. Landmann qualified at the Victorian Final Examination in September, 1906, and was registered in the October following. He had been in practice at 601 Burwood Road, Auburn, for many years, and was actively associated with the business at the time of his death. He took much interest in and held office in Freemasonry.

Mr. Landmann was survived by a widow and three sons and three daughters. One daughter, Mrs. N. E. Mortimer, is registered as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria.

Kevin Goad.

We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. Kevin Goad, which occurred at the Warracknabeal Hospital in April. Mr. Goad was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Goad, of Warracknabeal, and was born at Stawell on November 22, 1926. He was apprenticed to Mr. D. L. McColl, pharmaceutical chemist, Warracknabeal, in 1944, and qualified at the Final Examination of the Pharmacy Board in December, 1947, after which he acted as reliever in various country districts. Two years ago he took up farming. He was keenly interested in community, cultural and sporting activities, and was widely respected in the district.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

A special meeting of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria was held at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 12, at 8 p.m.

Present.—The President, Mr. S. J. Baird, Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, W. Wishart, and the Registrar.

Final Examination.—The President said the meeting had been called to discuss some matters relating to the Final Examination and other business which it had not been possible to complete at earlier meetings.

Considerable time was devoted to discussion of the arrangements for the Prescription Reading, Oral and Practical Pharmacy Sections of the Final Examination, and the following resolutions were adopted:—

- (1) That the Final Practical Pharmacy Examination commencing in September, 1952, be of two sessions, each of three hours, instead of four hours as at present; and

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VICTORIA (Continued)

- (2) That the Oral Examination shall be by appointment, and held on some day other than the day fixed for the Examinations in Practical Pharmacy, this arrangement to commence with the September, 1952, Examination; and
- (3) That the Examination in Prescription Reading be conducted by the same Examiner at the appointed time for the Oral Examination.

Other matters discussed at the meeting were the allocation of percentage of registration renewal fees for the advancement of pharmaceutical education and science in accordance with the provisions of the Medical Act 1950, and the drafting of new Regulations under extended powers provided by that Act.

The meeting terminated at 10.15 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD.

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 21, at 2.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. S. J. Baird (President) in the chair, Messrs. H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, W. R. Iliffe, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, and the Registrar (Mr. F. C. Kent).

Death of Mr. A. L. W. Jones.—The President said that it was his sorrowful duty to announce the death of their late colleague, Mr. A. L. W. Jones, which occurred on May 13.

Before confirming the minutes of the previous meeting he wished to refer to the great loss which pharmacy had sustained by the death of Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones had been a member of the Board since 1928. No one had given greater service or devoted himself more unselfishly to the cause of pharmacy than Mr. Jones had done; no one was more respected or loved, and few had contributed more to the furtherance of pharmacy in Victoria.

At the President's request the members of the Board stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Jones.

The President then suggested that a permanent record of the Board's appreciation of Mr. Jones' services be made in the minutes of the Board.

Mr. Braithwaite moved that the Board have prepared an appropriate resume of the late Mr. Jones' work for the Board, and for pharmacy; that such be incorporated in the records of the Board, together with an expression of the Board's appreciation of the achievements of a man who gave so freely of his time and his ability, and that a copy of the record be sent to Mrs. Jones.

Mr. Callister seconded the motion. He supported the sentiments expressed by Mr. Braithwaite concerning the long and valuable service given by Mr. Jones to the Board and other pharmaceutical organisations. Everyone had a feeling of respect and appreciation and a sense of personal loss at the passing of Mr. Jones, because he had endeared himself to all by his sterling qualities. The motion was carried.

Correspondence.—Formal correspondence was tabled and letters read included the following:—

From the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, forwarding copy of annual report for 1951.

To Mr. D. W. Tapping, congratulating him on appointment as Registrar of Tasmanian Board.

From a chemist, enquiring if there was any regulation prohibiting the posting of Glutamic Acid tablets to Europe. Informed that the Board had no information of any such provision.

To the Veterinary Board of Victoria, enquiring if a person alleged to be distributing Specified Drugs was a qualified veterinary surgeon.

To Mr. G. Murrie, pharmaceutical chemist, Geelong and District Hospital, approving of improved Danger-

ous Drugs Administration Book ruling submitted by him.

To Mr. W. Wishart, conveying sympathy of President and members of the Board in the loss sustained by him in the death of his mother.

From the Department of Health, enquiring as to the Board's decision concerning an application for registration by a person qualified at the King Fuad University, Cairo. Advised that an applicant holding similar qualifications had been granted a remission of two years of the course.

From the Federal Director of Public Relations, forwarding information re terms of reference of proposed Commonwealth-State Apprenticeship Enquiry.

From the Department of Health, seeking information regarding butter factories authorised to supply penicillin preparations in a country district. The reply sent was approved.

From the manager of a pharmacy in a country town, submitting proposals for establishment of a depot at which prescriptions could be collected and medicines individually wrapped and addressed would be sent for delivery to customers. The Board instructed that a reply be sent expressing the opinion that the proposal was contrary to the provisions of the pharmacy regulations, and therefore could not be approved.

Formal Business.—The following formal business was dealt with:—

Application for Registration: Margaret Jean Gillham (Final Exam., Vic.).

Erasure of Names from Register: Robert Victor Anderson (dec. 22/4/52); Kevin Frank Goad (dec. 7/4/52); James Andrew Thomas Kilgour (dec. 21/4/52).

Apprenticeship Indentures Registered: 51.

Apprenticeship Indentures Transferred: 10.

Apprenticeship Indenture Cancelled: 1.

Apprenticeship Indenture Extended: 1.

Certificates of Exemption Issued: 47.

Certificates of Identity Issued: 6.

Managers and Relievers Notified: 53.

Business Changes Notified: 4.

New Businesses Opened: 4.

Opium Permits Issued: 8.

Permits to Purchase Cyanide Issued: 5.

Permits to Sell Cyanide Issued: 1.

Licences as General Dealers in Poison Issued: 1.

Licences to Sell Poisonous Substances Issued: 12.

Licence to be in Possession of Dangerous Drugs at a Hospital Issued: 1.

Police Reports re Poisonings: 1 Arsenic (fatal), 1 Phenyle (not fatal), 1 rat poison (fatal).

Inspectors' Reports, Enquiries, Etc.—A summary of the month's activities by the Chief Inspector was tabled, and separate reports relating to the following matters were presented:—

Drunkenness Charge.—A cutting from Melbourne "Truth" concerning conviction of a lady chemist for being in charge of a car while under the influence of drink was tabled. A fine of £10 was imposed and her driving licence cancelled. Resolved that no action other than filing the report be taken.

Complaints re Pharmacies.—Reports were received from the Chief Inspector concerning three pharmacies at which conditions were unsatisfactory.—It was resolved that two of the pharmacists concerned be called before the Board to give an explanation and to supply any information which the Board might desire in regard to these reports.

Addicts.—Reports were submitted regarding two reputed drug addicts. Both had been committed to an institution for twelve months. One of the persons concerned was a medical practitioner.

Hormone Preparations.—Reports were submitted concerning a hormone preparation being advertised in the Melbourne press and of the advertisements inviting orders for supply from a Sydney address. The Board directed that special attention be given to the matter of sale of such preparations which were now controlled by the Specified Drugs regulations and that enquiries



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VICTORIA (Continued)

be made as to the legality of supply through the mail from another State of preparations subject to restriction in Victoria.

Illegal Possession of Drugs.—It was reported that the Chief Inspector, together with an officer of the Criminal Investigation Branch, interviewed an unqualified person and found in his possession a number of Specified Drugs. The drugs had been identified and classified by the Chief Inspector, and further action by the police was under consideration.

Cosmetic Bar.—Inspection of premises described as a "cosmetic bar" was undertaken and some poisons and Specified Drugs were found in stock. The proprietor, a pharmaceutical chemist, was advised of the irregularity and instructed to remove such articles from stock, as no qualified chemist was in attendance. A later inspection indicated that the instruction had been carried out.

Forgeries.—The Chief Inspector reported that a woman who was suspected of having forged prescriptions for dangerous drugs had been apprehended by the C.I.B., and that action was being taken by that branch. Enquiries were proceeding concerning another suspected case of forgery.

Sunday Supervision.—Reports were submitted concerning inspection of pharmacies on a Sunday morning, following reports that apprentices had been left in charge.

Non-Cancellation of Prescription.—The Chief Inspector reported on enquiries into a case in which it was stated to him that a prescription for a dangerous drug had been repeated without authority and had not been cancelled. There was no evidence to support the statement.

Inspection of Dispensary.—The Chief Inspector reported that he had been refused admission to the dispensary of a suburban pharmacy, but had entered and inspected records. The Registrar said he had received a telephone message from the chemist concerned enquiring as to the Inspector's authority, and had replied that the Inspector was authorised to enter and inspect dispensary stocks, records, etc. It was resolved that a letter be sent to the chemist concerned informing him that the Inspector had been acting in accordance with his duties and the Board expected that in future an Inspector and officer of the Board should receive proper co-operation and courtesy if, in the course of his duties, he had to make further inspections.

Control of Drug Supplies.—Reference was made to difficulties of control and supervision of supplies of dangerous drugs in abnormal quantities, and it was resolved that a round-table discussion on the subject between officers of the Police Department, the Customs and the Board be arranged.

Faulty Equipment.—A report was received concerning faulty equipment in a pharmacy, and the Registrar was instructed to write, pointing out the necessity for immediate rectification of the position.

Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel.—Mr. Braithwaite presented a report of the meeting of the Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel held on May 5. Several recommendations for scheduling of new items and transfer of some items from one schedule to another were recommended. The recommendations of the Panel were adopted.

Increasing Use of Pethidine.—The President reported on an interview which had taken place with Mr. R. C. McCarthy, an officer of the Department of Public Health in South Australia, who had been in Melbourne recently. The South Australian Department was concerned at the great increase in the prescribing and dispensing of pethidine since the introduction of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act. Mr. Baird gave details of figures which had been obtained in regard to supplies

of this drug in South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. He said that an official communication from the Department of Public Health in South Australia would follow. Resolved that consideration be deferred until the receipt of this communication.

Thallium.—Mr. Baird said that the Pharmaceutical Society had suggested that consideration be given to the need for imposing greater restrictions on the distribution of Thallium. After consideration it was resolved that the Society be advised that Thallium is included in the Second Part of the Second Schedule to the Poisons Act 1928, and that in the opinion of the Board this control was adequate. It was pointed out that there were no recorded deaths from Thallium poisoning in Victoria.

Poison Nomenclature.—A member of the Board drew attention to a trade name given to a preparation of phenobarbital being marketed in this State. This name, he said, was given in Martindale as a synonym for barbitone, the dose of which was five times that of phenobarbital. The name for a make of phenobarbital was considered dangerous because of possible confusion. The Board therefore directed that a communication on the subject be sent to the distributor suggesting that the name be discontinued.

Chlorodyne Addict.—A report was made concerning purchase of abnormal quantities of Chlorodyne by an elderly inmate of a home, and the Board directed that the Inspector be instructed to call on pharmacies in the area and instruct them to withhold supplies.

Applications for Concessions.—Two applications for acceptance of entrance qualifications from persons qualified outside Australia were received and approved.

An application from a fourth-year student holding a B.Sc. degree for permission to sit for the Final Examination in September was received and approved.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly statement and accounts totalling £428/0/5 were passed for payment.

The meeting then adjourned.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 7, at 9.30 a.m.

Present.—Mr. A. G. Davis (President) in the Chair, Mrs. P. A. Crawford, Messrs. S. J. Baird, L. A. Hamon, A. L. Hull, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, V. G. Morieson, E. Scott, C. P. A. Taylor, I. J. Thompson, G. H. Williams, P. C. Kent (Secretary) and T. G. Allen (Minutes Secretary).

Correspondence.—Formal correspondence was tabled. Letters read included the following:—

To Mr. W. A. Gordon, notifying him of election as an Honorary Member.

To the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain introducing Miss H. B. Harber and Mr. Z. Markov.

To the State Branch Committee of the Guild, inviting it to nominate two members to the Hospital Dispensing Committee.

From the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland, forwarding copies of the report of the A.P.F. Revision Committee Meeting.

From Melbourne City Council, inviting Society to nominate representatives for the voting rolls for Gipps and Smith Wards.—The President nominated.

To Superintendent of Telephones, endorsing applications of several members for installation of instruments.

To Mr. R. S. Anderson, conveying sympathy on the death of his father.

From Mr. A. Y. S. Wilson, Nyah West, donating volume of mounted New Zealand ferns. Letter of thanks to be sent.

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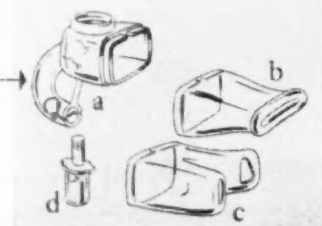


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VICTORIA (Continued)

From Mr. S. H. Blake, thanking the Council for electing him an honorary Life Member, and forwarding cheque for £25 as donation to the Society's funds. Resolved that letter of thanks be forwarded, and Mr. Blake advised that contribution be applied to the Special Travelling Scholarship Fund about to be established.

To the University of Melbourne, advising increase in fee for lectures and practical work in Materia Medica and Pharmacy for Fourth Year Medical students.

From a country member, reporting private arrangements between chemist and doctor. The Secretary reported that a communication had been sent to the British Medical Association drawing attention to the alleged code prescription, and that the matter was also being taken up with a chemist in the area. Action endorsed.

To the Society's solicitors, forwarding copies of special resolution re amendment of Articles of Association for filing with Registrar-General.

New Members Elected.—

Full Members.—Carmel Therese Allen, Alan Douglas Kosky, Marion Isobel Ramsay, Arthur William Ralph Uglow.

Transferred from Apprentice Members to Full Members.—Valerie Josephine Attiah, Morris Berenholtz, John Thomas Lindsay Caldwell, Margaret Jean Gillham, Betty Donal Gray, Stephen William Hill, William John Horsley Jackson, Gilbert Charles Hector Le Plastrier, Anne Elizabeth Mitchell Norton, Dorothy Jacobena Read, Ronald George Stevenson, David Braithwaite Boyall, Robert James Griffiths.

Apprentice Members.—James Robert Beovich, Robin Dean Briggs, Dorothy May Christian, John Auchterlonie Creelman, Kevin Kingsley Greenwood, Raymond David Joseph, Peter Ian Meredith, Peter Robert McKee, James Alan McKercher, Barbara Margaret Neuss, Helen Noack, David Maxwell Parish, Alan John Rainey, Sandra Rose, John Denis Shannon, Kenneth William Shaw, Francis Richard Tayler, Robert Hendy Trounce, Brian James Walsh, Nance Judith West.

Committee Reports.—

Special Scholarship Committee.—The President reported that a meeting of the Special Scholarship Committee was held on May 6, at which it was recommended that the Council establish a Special Travelling Scholarship Fund for the purpose of enabling persons in Victoria who are suitably qualified to undertake study and work overseas. The Committee had recommended that the first award be to the Dean of the Victorian College of Pharmacy, Mr. A. T. S. Sissons. The President reported also that he had conveyed personally to Mr. Sissons the offer of the Council at the last meeting that he be granted six months' leave of absence to travel abroad with Mrs. Sissons, and that the offer had been accepted with thanks.

During the discussion which followed the Committee's recommendations a high tribute was paid from members all round the table to the value of Mr. Sissons' work and his devotion to the College and its students since he joined the staff in 1920.

The Committee's recommendation for establishing a fund was adopted, and the details for procedure left with the special Sub-Committee.

Tripartite Committee on Education.—The President reported that the Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of the Council, the Guild and the Pharmacy Board met during the month, and considered the memorandum issued following the meeting of representatives of Victoria and South Australia. He felt that definite progress had been made. A further meet-

ing was to be held at an early date, when the remainder of the recommendations would be debated. Mr. Thompson, Chairman of the Education Committee, endorsed the remarks of the President, and commented on the unity of thought and harmony in the discussions at the meeting.

Items discussed included the standard for entrance, concurrent apprenticeship, and academic studies, etc.

Education Committee.—The Chairman reported that Mr. Thompson had been re-elected as Chairman of the Education Committee at a meeting which was held on April 24, and he called on Mr. Thompson to report.

Mr. Thompson said that the Dean of the College was present at the meeting, and outlined fully the position in regard to studies of National Service Trainees. After hearing the explanation of the Dean, the Committee was satisfied that everything possible had been done to meet the needs of these people.

The Committee had also had a preliminary discussion of arrangements for carrying on during the Dean's absence on leave overseas in 1953. The Report was received, and it was resolved that certain financial aspects be referred to the Finance Committee.

Honorary Librarian's Report.—The Honorary Librarian (Mrs. Crawford) recommended the purchase of the following books for the Society's Library:—

Medicinal Chemistry, by Alfred Burger, Vol. I, Vol. II.

The Merck Index, 6th Edition.

Respiratory Enzymes, H. A. Lardy.

The Plant Glycosides, R. J. Melroy.

The Chemistry of Industrial Toxicology, H. B. Elkins.

A.P.F. Management Committee.—Mr. Johnson said Mr. Hornby's report for the month of April showed that he was continuing his detailing work in the suburbs of Coburg, Brunswick and parts of Pascoe Vale. Contacts were very difficult, surgeries were crowded, and two or three visits were necessary to see the doctors. The A.P.F. was well known and widely used, although some practitioners were without a copy of the formulae. Seasonally preparations were brought to the notice of prescribers. Prescribing for P.M.S. was extensive in the suburbs mentioned, and many doctors had emphasised the advantages that would occur to them if the formulae were approved under the scheme. Arrangements for the forthcoming Medical Exhibition were proceeding, and a draft of the proposed display unit was being prepared, and would be discussed with Mr. T. W. V. Dillon, of Royco (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., during the coming week.

Mr. Johnson said there were one or two matters he would like to mention. Some of the medical practitioners were noted as being without a copy of the A.P.F. The position, as the Council knew, was that no stock of the A.P.F. were on hand, but an order for 2000 copies by way of reprint had been placed, and he thought that these copies should be forthcoming within the next six weeks.

The point made by some of the doctors with regard to P.M.S. and the A.P.F. not being an official book was one that concerned them greatly, but there was nothing much they could do unless Mr. Scott could give them a clue how to go about it. Mr. Scott said he had no suggestions to offer "off the cuff." Mr. Johnson said it was a pity in view of all the years the A.P.F. had been in circulation that it had been bypassed.

Mr. Johnson moved that the report be received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morison and carried.

Mr. Hamon said he had not been able to find any doctors who were interested in linctus heroin A.P.F. They preferred syrup aurant type of linctus heroin. He asked what was the experience of other members around the table.

VICTORIA (Continued)

Mr. Johnson said they had prescribed quite frequently in his district. Mr. Scott said M.P.H. was used more frequently in the city. Mr. Johnson said M.H.P. had gone out of favour quite a lot in his experience. Mr. Hull said those who specified in M.H.P. got M.H.P.; those who did not specify any formula got A.P.F.

Prescribing Trends.—A member wrote expressing concern at the tendency of prescribers to direct that proprietary preparations be dispensed and labelled "as such," and alleged that some specialists were handing out duplicated prescriptions of this nature. Certain prescribing and dispensing practices which he regarded as objectionable were also taking place at hospitals. It was resolved that this matter be referred to the Medico-Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee, and that a meeting of representatives of the Guild and the Society take place before the actual meeting with medical representatives so that the various items listed for the agenda could be studied beforehand.

Hospital Dispensing.—A letter was received from the Secretary of the Hospitals Commission intimating that, in view of new arrangements likely to be entered into between the Commonwealth and State Governments, it will be necessary to terminate the agreement between the Society and the Commission relating to the supply of medicines for private and intermediate patients in public hospitals.

The Commonwealth Government, it was stated, had requested that all medicines for all patients in public hospitals should be supplied from the Hospital Pharmacy Departments. The Council resolved that this matter be referred to the Hospital Dispensing Committee for urgent consideration. It was further resolved that this Committee be reconstituted as a Joint Committee of the Society and the Guild.

Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.—Mr. Morison reported that the Federal Council of the Pharmaceutical Societies met on April 3. He had already reported on a previous occasion the registration of aliens, but the matter that would interest the members of the Council arising from the recent meeting was the Travelling Scholarship. Mr. Edgar Rouse, Managing Director of Kodak (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., had offered £1000 as a travelling scholarship. The Federal Council had formulated certain ideas to be put before a Committee. The Travelling Scholarship to enable suitable persons to undertake post-graduate studies would be of inestimable value to pharmacy in Australia and indirectly to the public. At the present time no such scholarships were available. As the pharmaceutical societies were responsible for pharmaceutical education, the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies was considered to be the proper body to administer any fund for travelling scholarships in pharmacy.

Mr. Morison read to the meeting the terms of the scholarship as contained in the circular communication from the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies.

Mr. Morison said he did not think it would be necessary to say much more in respect of this matter except that a communication had been sent to every State, and to report that an advisory Committee had been set up, consisting of Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, Dr. Byron L. Stanton and the President of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, who would make the final choice. The men who had been asked for opinions in the different States were those most suitable to give opinions, such as Professor Thorp in New South Wales, Mr. Sissons in Victoria, Mr. Lipsham in South Australia, Dr. Watson in Western Australia, Mr. Williams in Queensland, and as regards Tasmania they had asked Mr. Crisp to nominate a suitable person. Mr. Morison said he thought replies had come in from all those States. A further report could be presented

to the Council in due course, after the first meeting of the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Scott moved that the report be received. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £2004/10/2 were passed for payment.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE P.D.L.

Directors' Meeting

The 342nd meeting of the Directors of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. was held at 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, on May 21, at 10 a.m.

Present.—Mr. E. W. Braithwaite (in the Chair), Messrs. W. J. Cornell, N. C. Cossar, E. A. O. Moore, F. N. Pleasance, B. L. Warner and the Secretary.

Death of Mr. A. L. W. Jones.—The Chairman, referring to the death of Mr. Jones, said during his life Mr. Jones had given very freely of his time in the service of official Pharmacy over a period of nearly thirty years. Mr. Jones possessed a very broad knowledge of the ramifications of Official Pharmacy, and had a very wide experience of its happenings, precedents and people—knowledge which was of very great assistance to the P.D.L. Board. Mr. Jones' friendliness was very contagious, and he had a very wide circle of friends not only in Victoria but also in the other States, he having attended most of the Pharmaceutical Association conferences since the mid-twenties. The Directors of P.D.L. would feel his loss very keenly.

After Mr. Pleasance and Mr. Warner had supported the Chairman's remarks, all those present stood in silence for a period as a mark of respect to Mr. Jones' memory.

Correspondence.—Formal correspondence was tabled and the following letters were dealt with:—

To Mrs. A. L. W. Jones and family, conveying the sympathy of the Directors in their bereavement.

From Melbourne Fire Office Ltd., in regard to the appointment of P.D.L. nominee on the Board of Melbourne Fire Office Ltd., in succession to the late Mr. A. L. W. Jones. Mr. Warner said he would be pleased to nominate Mr. E. W. Braithwaite for this position. Mr. Cossar seconded the motion, which was put by Mr. Warner and carried. Mr. Braithwaite thanked his colleagues for the honour.

To Mr. Maxwell E. Dunn, solicitor, conveying the best wishes of the Directors for a happy and beneficial trip overseas, and a safe return.

To Mr. Maxwell E. Dunn, forwarding copy of the letter forwarded by a member to the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation, objecting to the assessment he had received for taxation of goodwill.

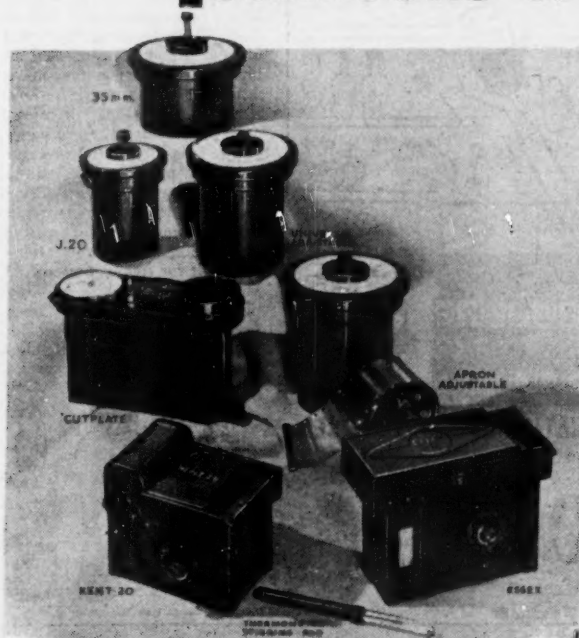
To the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, advising that the Directors agreed in principle with the recommendations made by the International Pharmaceutical Federation at its Rome meeting in regard to (1) Standard Packaging, and (2) Distribution of Insulin.

From Mr. P. S. Hunter, acknowledging with thanks cuttings from recent issues of the Journal dealing with his retirement from Melbourne Fire Office Ltd.

From a member, enquiring whether one could employ a messenger boy, about thirteen years of age. The Secretary said this enquiry had been referred to the Factories and Shops Department. The reply was that there was no restriction as regards age against the employment of a messenger boy of thirteen years, so long as he was clear with the school authorities. The matter of wages was not covered by the award, so



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VICTORIA (Continued)

that this was a matter of arrangement between the employer and the messenger boy or his parents.

An enquiry from a member for particulars of General Public Risk Insurance had been referred to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd.

From Ian Potter and Co., forwarding marked inscribed stock transfer forms, covering an amount of £1,200 34% 1964 Commonwealth Loan purchased in February last on account of the Federal Council.

New Members Elected.—Mrs. Dorothy M. Hayes, Croydon, and Messrs. Myer Abzatz, Oakleigh; John W. R. Findlay, Sale; Sidney S. Goble, Rye, and Donald G. Grey, Croydon.

Names Erased from Register of Members.—The Secretary tabled a list of names of members (a) In business but not renewed for the current year; (b) Out of business; (c) Transferred to N.S.W. Branch; (d) Deceased, and (e) Resigned. Mr. Moore moved that the names of these members be erased from the Register of Members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cossar and carried.

In regard to the widows of two members, the Secretary was instructed to write to them explaining their position in regard to the Chemists' Indemnity Policy, as it was the opinion of the Directors that this information might be of assistance to the respective managers of the pharmacies.

Legal Advice.—A member brought to notice the fact that part of one of his windows was obscured by a weighing scales of another trader. The facts were placed before the Solicitor, whose advice was that he doubted whether, in the circumstances, the member had any redress.

A member who inquired in regard to taxation of goodwill had been referred to Fenton and Dunn.

As regards taxation of goodwill, Mr. Warner said he had noticed a press reference recently suggesting that there might be an amendment of the income tax assessment act to permit of taxation on goodwill being spread over two years. The Secretary said he had noticed that an appeal case affecting a newsagent in New South Wales had been decided in the High Court on May 12, when it was held that the profit made on the sale of the goodwill of this business constituted assessable income. The report of the case appeared in "The Sydney Morning Herald" of May 13, 1952.

Legal Defence.—A member reported that one of his customers, who had been obtaining tablets from his pharmacy, on prescription, over a period of some months, had been found dead. The circumstances suggested either suicide or an unintentional overdose, self-administered. After consideration of this case, the Directors decided that the member be provided with legal representation at the inquest, whether he was called as a witness or not.

Insurances.—The views of the Directors in regard to the "Blanket" policies, and the premium rates for General Public Risk Insurance, had been communicated to Melbourne Fire Office Ltd., and the company's reply was awaited.

Report on Journal.—Mr. Cossar said one of the matters dealt with at the last meeting of the Board of Management of the Journal was linked with one of the "P.D.L. Warning" paragraphs (published December, 1951). A chemist in New South Wales asked if he could get information on the handling of prescriptions for people of the same name, when several such prescriptions were received on the same day. The Journal Board had decided to publish suggestions from chemists in several States describing how such prescriptions were handled by the bigger pharmacies.

Conference with Representatives of N.S.W. Local Board.—The Chairman reported on the main points discussed at the conference of representatives of the Directors and the New South Wales Local Board in Melbourne on May 12 and 13, in reference to the constitution of the company and the question of insurances. Considerable progress had been made, and agreement reached on a number of items. On the question of election of Directors, it was agreed to refer to a senior member of the Bar, as final referee, the differing opinions obtained earlier from Counsel in Victoria and New South Wales. It had also been agreed that the Articles of Association should be amended in November next, to provide for the election of Directors to be by secret ballot. Other matters agreed upon at the Conference were summarised by the Chairman. At some personal sacrifice and inconvenience Mr. W. R. Cutler, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand, had presided at the Conference, and the Chairman paid a warm tribute to Mr. Cutler's impartial and helpful handling of the deliberations. The Chairman also thanked Mr. W. J. Cornell, of Ballarat, who attended the afternoon session on May 12, at very short notice, to take the place of Mr. B. L. Warner, who was indisposed.

After discussion of the Chairman's report, Mr. Pleasance moved that the decisions of the Conference by way of recommendations to the Directors and the New South Wales Local Board be endorsed. He congratulated those who had taken part for the excellent Conference they had achieved for the benefit of P.D.L. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cossar, supported by Mr. Warner, and carried.

Financial.—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and accounts totalling £148/1/4 were passed for payment.

Mr. Pleasance said it would be necessary for the transfers of Inscribed Stock to be formally sealed. It was resolved that the seal of the company be applied to the documents.

The meeting closed at 1.40 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Victorian Branch of the Guild met at 350 Swanston street, Melbourne, on May 6, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. W. R. Iliffe (President) in the Chair, Messrs. F. N. Lee, A. K. Lloyd, N. F. Keith, A. O. C. Blake, A. E. Clemence, J. W. D. Crowley, A. Dorman, A. Frederiksen, H. V. Gear, V. F. Gemmola, J. R. Griffiths, L. Hamon, K. E. Hartley, J. B. Hollow, S. Hull, W. J. Langtry, W. R. Lumley, A. E. Moore, E. C. McClelland, L. G. Rowbottom, E. Scott, B. Hornby, and the Secretary.

Attending by Invitation: Messrs. I. J. Thompson, T. B. Evans, K. G. Attiwill, R. G. Ross and C. B. Watson.

Message of Sympathy.—The President informed the Committee that Mr. Richards would be unable to be present at the meeting owing to a serious accident to his son on the previous day. Members expressed their regret, and it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Lloyd, that a letter expressing the regret of the S.B.C. on hearing of the accident to his son be sent to Mr. Richards.

Removals from P.B.A.—Speaking in support of a letter which the President read, from Mr. Miller, of Geelong, protesting against the deletions from the P.B.A. list without reasonable notice, Mr. Lloyd said that city chemists did not realise the difficulties under which country chemists operated. Although Geelong

VICTORIA (Continued)

was in a better position than most country centres, he felt the country chemists were penalised, as they had to carry large stocks of drugs, etc., being unable to obtain deliveries at short notice.

Mr. Hamon supported Mr. Lloyd's remarks, and urged that a strong protest be lodged at Canberra.

A lengthy discussion followed, during which members expressed their objection to the Government's attitude in dealing with this latest list of removals from P.B.A., and expressed the view that chemists should be given at least four weeks' notice before the doctors were circularised to give them the opportunity of disposing of their stocks.

Mr. Lee said that while the Federal and State officials might have reasons for not giving notice of these changes, he felt that this latest action had lost them goodwill.

Mr. Hull moved that the Federal Executive approach the Federal Government at Ministerial level to secure the formulation of a rule of law for the deletion of P.B.A. products used in P.B.A. prescribing. Mr. Lumley seconded. Carried.

Correspondence.—From Mr. Gardner, Food Standards Committee, advising that the Committee had decided to recommend to the Governor-in-Council the deletion of Regulation No. 77 (2) from the Act. Mr. Attiwill said that he would like to have it recorded that it was due to the efforts of Mr. Iliffe that this vexatious clause had been removed. (Applause.)

From Mr. Sydney Hull, objecting to the bypassing of chemists by an agency firm by directing the doctors to wholesalers. Mr. Lloyd moved, Mr. Moore seconded, that a letter be sent to the agency referred to, protesting against its action in directing doctors to the wholesalers. Carried.

"Welcome Waggon."—The President drew the attention of members to an advertisement in the press headed "The Welcome Waggon." This organisation contacted selected retailers from each district, and those willing to co-operate paid a joining fee of £10. A representative of the organisation called on persons moving to a new district. One of the services was to recommend the "Welcome Waggon" members to the most suitable places for shopping in the district.

A general discussion followed, and members expressed the view that it was against Guild policy, as it gave one trader advantages over another.

Mr. Langtry thought the matter should be given reasonable consideration, as district delegates had a responsibility to members. He felt that a clear and true picture should be given, so that members could make their own decisions and decide whether or not the outlay was justified.

Mr. Hull then moved that the scheme referred to is considered to be contrary to Guild policy. Mr. Scott seconded. Carried.

Federal Report.—Mr. Scott stated that he had little to report. Application had been lodged for a permit to erect a seven-storeyed building on the land recently bought by the Guild. It was hoped that a reply would be received shortly.

Permindez.—Mr. Scott reported that as a result of a meeting with Mr. Colman in Melbourne it had become evident that it would not be possible to find a suitable arrangement by which the Guild and Mr. Colman could work together.

Mr. Scott said he would like to see members getting a free service, but, in any case, the Federal Council should grapple with the problem and see that the prices went out from the Guild. He had two suggestions to make, which he would like members to ventilate freely and give serious thought to for a month. They were.—

(1) That the Federal Office should take over the whole system and give weekly price alterations. If this plan was adopted, it would necessitate a reallocation of fees from the States to meet the increased cost for wages, etc. The task would be colossal, but it could be done.

(2) That the Guild increase its staff to handle the preparation of the weekly price alterations. These lists would then be given to the State Secretaries to distribute as each State thought fit. This method would increase the cost of Pricing Amendments to the State Offices.

Adjustment of P.M.S. Accounts.—Mr. Lee submitted several complaints from his district against the rate of payment for P.M.S. scripts, and said that the payment for mixtures was totally inadequate, particularly for linctures.

Mr. Langtry suggested contacting members to discover how the average price affected the individual chemist. After further discussion it was agreed that the "Gilseal News" be held back to enable a questionnaire to be forwarded to chemists asking them to give accurate details of scripts dispensed by them for P.M.S.

On receipt of these particulars the Guild would be able to prepare a case to be presented to the Government showing the actual effect on members.

New Members Elected.—Messrs. L. N. Harmer, Glen Waverley; M. Abatz, Oakleigh; G. L. Connell, Footscray; D. L. O'Hearn, Port Melbourne, and J. B. Gough, Gardenvale.

District Remits.

District 2B: Mr. Moore spoke to the following remits from his district:—

(1) Bottles in shades of green supplied by a wholesaler for 8-oz. mixtures unsuitable for white mixtures. Mr. Moore agreed to notify the Guild Office the number and date of invoice. The Secretary would then contact the wholesaler and endeavour to obtain the name of the makers.

(2) District 2B would like to congratulate Mr. Lee on his article in the March issue of the "Gilseal News" on Taxes.

District No. 12: A letter from Mr. J. M. Kennedy, as Secretary for District No. 12, pledging support of his District for the proposed purchase of land and erection of a building, was read by the President.

District No. 18: Mr. Hamon submitted remits from his district:—

(1) District No. 18 is in accord with the policy of Sigma Co. in manufacturing veterinary lines. Products such as Penicillin are good sellers to the chemists particularly in country areas.

(2) That Federal Office be asked again to give special attention to an increase in the Zone Rate.

(3) That the Pricing Committee issue a list of packed household tablets, and that alterations be sent out regularly with the "Gilseal News." This matter is already being attended to.

District No. 3: Re P.P. Lists, Mr. Hull suggested that a method of coding should be adopted to show whether a line carried the proper margin and therefore was to be pushed against another product showing less profit.

Pricing Committee Report.—Mr. Keith reported that members were complaining about the omission from the Patents List of leading manufacturers' lines. Some manufacturers did not circularise chemists, and in such cases it was necessary to print individual lines and their prices in the Guild List.

Finally it was agreed that manufacturers' lines which were not being generally circulated to chemists would be listed and sent out with the May "Gilseal News."

A list of over-the-counter prices for tablets was being prepared, and together with a list which Mr. Hamilton had compiled would be issued with the May "News."

The meeting closed at 12.5 a.m.

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QUEENSLAND

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. M. W. Roberts, manager of Drysdale's, chose Ballina for his holidays which he took during the month.

Bundaberg and Maroochydore were chosen by **Miss Rina Whitehead** for her annual holidays.

Miss Eleanor Chalmers chose the South Coast for a short vacation she enjoyed during the month. **Mrs. S. Withers** acted as locum during her absence.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Barnett and family have returned to Brisbane after several weeks' vacation at Surfers' Paradise. A Victorian pharmacist, **Miss Nancy English**, acted as locum during Mr. Barnett's absence.

The South Coast was also chosen by **Mr. and Mrs. R. Nasser** and family for their annual holidays. **Miss U. M. Wilson** was in charge of Mr. Nasser's pharmacy at Darra while he was away.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Watkins have returned to Muddubarra after a motoring holiday to Brisbane and the Northern Rivers District of N.S.W. **Miss Shirley Trotter** was in charge of Mr. Watkins' pharmacy during his absence.

Birth.—Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Stevens**, who have become proud parents on the birth of a daughter.

Pharmacies Among "Saw Man's" Victims.—A clever thief known as the "Saw Man," who has been evading the police in Brisbane for some months, has within recent weeks included pharmacists among his victims. Earlier in the month **Mr. D. N. McInnes**, of the Valley, had the misfortune to lose a sum of money, and more recently **Spier's Pharmacy**, also in the Valley, had £10 taken from the cash register. At Spier's he sawed through two iron bars of a back window, then broke the window to gain entrance to the shop. This was the "saw man's" 24th strike, and since he began operations in February last his haul has resulted in £660. The wholesale company of **D. Maclean Pty. Ltd.** was among his early victims.

MR. R. S. F. GREIG ARRIVES IN LONDON.

An interesting letter to hand from the President of the Society, **Mr. R. S. F. Greig**, reports that **Mrs. Greig** and he had a very pleasant and happy voyage from Australia on the "Oronsay." They arrived in London on May 3, and shortly afterwards they were visited by **Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Meldrum**, of Aberdeen, who were in Brisbane last year for the Pharmaceutical Association meetings.

Mr. Greig said he was privileged to attend a meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, when he met the President, Members and Secretaries.

Mr. and Mrs. Greig were present at the Ladies' Night, which is an evening when the Council of the Society entertain the wives of members. **Mr. Greig** was called on to reply to the toast to the Visitors from Overseas, and in doing so he conveyed greetings from the Society in Queensland, and also the Pharmaceutical Association.

Mr. Hugh Linstead, one of the Secretaries of the Society, who is also a Member of the House of Commons, had taken **Mr. Greig** to the House, where he was privileged to sit in on a meeting of the Statutory Committee, and heard how they dealt with pharmacists who committed breaches of the Acts.

In the short time **Mr. and Mrs. Greig** had been in London they had fitted in a fair amount of sight seeing, theatre going, etc., and they are thoroughly enjoying their trip.

VISIT OF MR. AND MRS. C. W. MAPLETHORPE.

Interesting overseas visitors to Brisbane from May 3 to 7 included **Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe**, Managing Director of **Allen & Hanburys Ltd.**, and a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and **Mrs. Maplethorpe**, who were accompanied by **Mr. G. Percival**, Manager of **Allen & Hanburys (Asia) Ltd.**, and **Mrs. Percival**.

The visitors were met on arrival at Eagle Farm aerodrome by **Mr. T. Hoskin**, local representative of **Allen & Hanburys**, and **Mr. R. V. S. Martin**, Acting President of the Society.

On May 4 the visitors were driven to Toowoomba, where several of the local pharmacists joined the party for lunch at Picnic Point. After sight seeing the party made its way back to Brisbane via Cunningham's Gap.

As the following day was the Labour Day holiday, the visitors were given another all-day outing covering Lone Pine, Cleveland, thence to Tweed Heads, thereby covering some hundreds of miles of motoring in the two days, and giving the visitors some insight into the Queensland countryside.

On the evening of May 6 an after-dinner party was given at Lennon's by the Council of the Society to **Mr. and Mrs. Maplethorpe**. **Mr. and Mrs. Martin** acted as host and hostess, and the guests included **Mr. and Mrs. G. Percival**, **Mr. and Mrs. T. Hoskin**, **Mr. W. A. Lenehan** (President of the Guild) and **Mrs. Lenehan**, and **Miss Chalmers** (President of the Women Pharmacists). An apology was received from **Mr. S. B. Watkins** (President of the Board) and **Mrs. Watkins**.

Cocktails and a buffet supper were enjoyed to a musical background, and the opportunity was afforded the guests of honour of meeting and mingling with those present.

During the evening a welcome on behalf of the Council of the Society was extended to **Mr. and Mrs. Maplethorpe** by **Mr. Martin**, to which **Mr. Maplethorpe** briefly replied.

An enjoyable informal evening concluded with "Auld Lang Syne."

During the brief stay **Mr. Maplethorpe's** time was occupied with business calls, and the visitors left by plane for Sydney on May 7.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Monthly Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on May 8, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—**Mr. R. V. S. Martin** (Chairman), **Misses E. F. Chalmers**, **E. A. Everett**, **Messrs. R. G. Gardner**, **H. G. E. Sneyd**, **J. E. McCaskie**, **L. A. Stevens**, **A. B. Williams**, **E. W. Vance**, and the Secretary.

Welcome to Mr. Sneyd.—The Chairman, in welcoming **Mr. H. G. E. Sneyd**, who was attending his first meeting as a member of the Council, said **Mr. Sneyd** would be another country member on the Council, and it was hoped that his association with the Council would prove interesting and profitable.—In reply, **Mr. Sneyd** thanked **Mr. Martin** for the welcome extended to him. He said for some time he had hoped that it would be possible for him to serve on the Council, and he trusted that he would prove a useful member.

Certificate of Membership.—The Secretary reported that she had consulted **Eager & Lamb**, who had prepared the Conference programme last year, with a view to submission of ideas for a new certificate. **Eager & Lamb** were now preparing an artist's sketch, and it was hoped that this would be available for the next meeting.

QUEENSLAND (Continued)

Correspondence:

To Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, stating consideration is being given to the establishment of a Committee in this State to consider applications from Queenslanders for the Kodak Travelling Scholarship, and advising members of the Council deeply appreciate Mr. Rouse's kindly gesture in making such a generous contribution by way of a travelling scholarship.

Re International Pharmaceutical Federation: Advising that this Council approves of the Federal Council taking over membership on behalf of the Australian Societies under the terms as outlined at the Council Executive Meeting on April 3.

To Pharmaceutical Association: (1) Stating the recommendations of the South Australian and Victorian representatives concerning pharmaceutical education have been circulated to the members of the Tripartite Committee in this State. It is hoped that Queensland's proposed new Pharmacy Course will be prepared by July in readiness for the Conference in August. (2) Re Section "O." Stating that it is hoped that one member of the Council will be able to represent Queensland at this meeting. (3) Ordering two dozen copies of the reprint of the 1947 A.P.F. to tide over until the new publication is available in 1953.

From Pharmaceutical Council of W.A. and the Pharmaceutical Societies of Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales, acknowledging report of A.P.F. meeting.

From Pharmaceutical Association: (1) Re standard packaging. Stating the Drug and Allied Trades Council at its meeting in February discussed the remit regarding standard packaging of prescription proprietaries, and the proposition that labels be easily detachable was carried. Advising that the Guild is now being asked to prepare a case in concise form to be submitted to affiliated organisations.

(2) Copy of communication received from the International Pharmaceutical Federation regarding resolutions concerning the control of pharmaceutical specialities and the distribution of insulin. Noted.

From National Union of Pharmaceutical Students, advising office-bearers of this organisation for the ensuing year.

Unfinancial Members.—The Secretary reported to date 21 full members and 7 associates had failed to pay the subscription for the current year. Early in May a further letter had been written to unfinancial members advising that their names had now been removed from the Journal mailing list, and quoting Clause 14 of the Constitution regarding payment of subscription.

Members of the Council said that unfinancial members should not be allowed to use the letters "M.P.S." after their name on letterheads, advertisements, etc., and after discussion Mr. Sneyd moved that unfinancial members be advised by registered post that if their subscription is not paid by May 31 their names will be removed from the list of members; drawing attention to the fact that they will not be able to use the letters "M.P.S." on letterheads, labels or advertisements of any kind. Seconded by Mr. Williams. Carried.

New Member Elected.—Mr. M. G. Hooper.

Report on "A.J.P."—Mr. McCaskie submitted the usual monthly report on the contents of the current issue of the Journal.

Report on Other Journals.—Mr. Stevens presented a resume on the Journals for March 1, 8 and 15.

In commenting on the April issue of "Pharmacy International," Mr. Stevens mentioned that a laboratory was to be set up in Australia for the manufacture of A.C.T.H. from which it was hoped to be able to supply the Australian demand.

Mr. Martin thanked Mr. McCaskie and Mr. Stevens for their reports.

Pharmacy Board Report.—As Board representative, Mr. Martin reported that the Board now had reciprocity with Northern Ireland. The Board would be holding a special meeting shortly to deal with education.

Lecture or Film Evening.—Mr. Martin recalled that the Social Committee had arranged for four functions during the year. The first one, held in March, was a lecture by Dr. Otto Hirschfeld, which was very well attended. The next function was arranged for June, and he thought some consideration should now be given as to what form this should take.

Mr. Gardner said it had been asked why are not more functions held in our own rooms now that the facilities were available. He said for June he thought it would be a good idea if something of a social nature was undertaken. He favoured a card evening.

Mr. Vance said he favoured a card evening as a possible way of getting members together.

After discussion Miss Everett moved that a card party be held on Friday, June 20, in the Society's rooms. Seconded by Mr. Gardner. Carried.

Vacancy on Tripartite Committee.—Owing to Mr. Greig, a member of this Committee, being overseas, Mr. Martin said it would be necessary to appoint another member from the Council to fill Mr. Greig's place during his absence. Mr. Vance proposed, Mr. Williams seconded, that Mr. Gardner be the third Society representative. There being no other nomination, Mr. Gardner was duly appointed.

Year Book Committee.—Mr. Martin reminded the members of this Committee that it would meet on May 12. Mr. Sneyd said he regretted that he would be unable to attend, but if he had any suggestions he would forward them prior to the meeting.

The meeting terminated at 10.15 p.m.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale's Chambers, Brisbane, on May 1, at 8 p.m.

Attendance.—Messrs. W. A. Lenehan (President), C. A. Nichol, C. W. Noble, A. W. Eberhardt, L. W. Huxham, L. Hall, F. H. Phillips, and the State Secretary.

Visitor.—The President said he was pleased that Mr. C. W. Watkins, of Mundubbera, who was at present holidaying in the city, could attend this evening's meeting. He said the Committee was always pleased to have country members at meetings, when possible, and he had much pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to him. Mr. Lenehan invited Mr. Watkins to participate in the discussions, and he trusted that he would find the evening most interesting.

Dispensing Fees.—Mr. Nichol reported that Offner, Hadley & Co. had advised that only 50 per cent. of the chemists they had written to had, to date, submitted the particulars that were sought. Mr. Moreton, of Offner, Hadley & Co., said some who had furnished the necessary particulars had gone to a lot of trouble, and had submitted a very comprehensive report. A reminder was being sent to those who had not yet furnished the particulars that were required. Offner, Hadley stated they could not commence the survey until at least 18 complete reports had been received.

Medical Benefits Fund.—The President reported that during the week Mr. Nichol and he had interviewed Dr. Wagner and Dr. Horn, Executive members of the Medical Benefits Fund, in the hope of securing an enrolment fee and 10 per cent. commission for chemists participating in the scheme in this State. Mr. Lenehan said Mr. Nichol and he were very well received by



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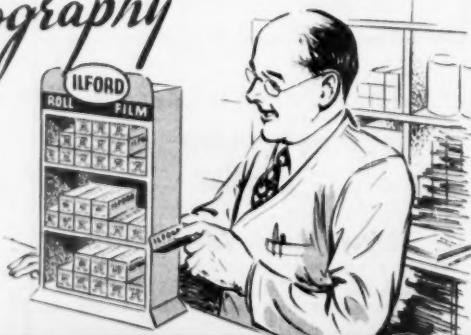
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QUEENSLAND (Continued)

the doctors, and a good discussion ensued. As pharmacy representatives they endeavoured to point out to the doctors that time meant money to pharmacists in business today. So much per hour was being paid out in wages that there had to be some return to offset the overhead expenses.

After hearing Mr. Lenehan's and Mr. Nichol's report, Mr. Eberhardt said he felt that the whole picture of the local situation should be reported to Federal Office. He moved that the report of the interview with the doctors be forwarded to Federal Office with an enquiry as to what action is recommended in this State. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Carried.

Correspondence.—To Federal Secretary, enquiring if the plebiscite respecting the increased subscription was being prepared and would shortly be distributed; pointing out that, now that the final three months of the financial year have been reached, the finances are reaching a precarious position, and the Committee is anxiously awaiting the arrival and the result of the plebiscite, in the hope that the increased subscription will apply from July 1 next.—Reply stating the plebiscite would be posted on April 18, the ballot closing on May 30, pointing out that if the increase is granted the approval of the alteration has to be received from the Registrar of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. However, this being a formality, sufficient time should elapse to enable the introduction of an increase, if granted by members, to take effect on July 1.

From Federal Secretary: (1) Advising the split-up of the dispensing fee, which was the basis for the original P.B.A. dispensing. Mr. Lenehan said Offner, Hadley were seeking this information, and it had been now made available to them.

Mr. Lenehan said members would also be interested to know that the Tasmanian Branch had furnished full particulars concerning the application made for increased dispensing fees, and which resulted in that Branch securing a small increase. This information had also been passed on to Offner, Hadley & Co.

Mr. Nichol said he had perused the Tasmanian figures. It would appear that they had worked out the time taken to dispense each individual item. Wage increases were also taken into account.

(2) Advising that the Registrar of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration has accepted the Industry clause of the Constitution and Rules of the Guild.

Charters Towers chemists, re the flat-rate payment of 4/- for the first six months for Pensioner Medical prescriptions; enquiring if anything is being done to have this amount increased, and if not could the Guild make representations to have the deficit on prescriptions paid or to have the price paid at present increased.—It was resolved to reply that some chemists have already received an adjustment from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Department. This is the Government's adjustment, and does not mean that the Guild has accepted the Government's pricing as final. Advice is awaited from the Federal Office, which is negotiating with the Government on the method of arriving at the particular figures.

Pharmaceutical Association, notifying that the Drug and Allied Trades Council at its recent conference passed a resolution whereby the Guild is being requested to prepare a case in concise form to be submitted to affiliated organisations concerning standard packaging.

Queensland Shop Assistants' Union, reporting on a conference held on April 22, when consideration was given to various alterations sought by the Shop Assistants' Union for employees working under the Shop Assistants' Award.—Mr. Lenehan reported that Mr. Rutter had represented the Guild at the meeting of

interested parties and at the meeting called by the Industrial Court. Some of the conditions requested by the Union had been granted and others had not. Mr. Rutter reported that none of the requests affected pharmacy, but chiefly carter salesmen, heads of departments, travellers, storemen, etc.

Over-the-Counter List.—Mr. Nichol reported that Mr. Huxham had completed a list for retail prices for over-the-counter drugs. This would prove very useful, and he would like the thanks of the Committee to Mr. Huxham recorded in the Minutes. Supported by Mr. Noble. Carried.

Watson Victor's Advice Re Hire of Ray Lamps.—Mr. Huxham said most chemists had received a circular from Watson Victor in which it was mentioned that the weekly hire charge for a ray lamp is 7/6. Mr. Huxham said as far as he knew chemists charged 10/- per week. He recommended that a letter be sent to Watson Victor notifying them of this weekly charge. Seconded by Mr. Hall. Carried.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. O. Conley, late of Snowtown, has opened a pharmacy in Gawler.

Miss L. Short spent ten days, in April, assisting Mr. W. G. Clarke, of Colonel Light Gardens.

Mr. L. Lever acted as locum for Mr. R. Daniel, of Grist's Pharmacy, Kingswood, during the month.

Mr. B. Webber has been assisting Mr. R. Brougham, of Mitcham, and Mr. L. Davison, of Kilkenny.

Mr. J. Grooby has been managing the pharmacy conducted by Mr. R. Gwynne, of Lockley.

Mr. E. Calver went to Burra under engagement with Mr. R. Wickes during April.

Mr. B. Webber acted as locum for Mr. W. Ey, of Colonel Light Gardens, during May.

Mr. W. Willis, of Mt. Gambier, has been on holidays, leaving Mr. S. Kentish in charge during his absence.

Miss L. Short has visited Loxton to assist Mr. F. Lander.

Mr. D. Underwood has opened a pharmacy in Tumby Bay.

Mr. R. C. McCarthy, of the Department of Health, has been visiting the Eastern States on Departmental business.

Mr. R. Hanna has been in charge of the pharmacy of Mr. J. Tiver, at Glenelg, during his holiday break.

Miss Hollingworth, an English pharmacist, has added her name to the South Australian Register of pharmaceutical chemists.

Mr. J. Hardy, of N.S.W., and **Mr. P. McCall**, have joined the staff of the Pharmacy Department of the Daws Road Repatriation Hospital.

Mr. A. Nicholas visited Whyalla to assist Mr. W. Taylor, and to allow Mr. H. Knightly his annual leave during Anzac week.

Mr. P. Jacobs acted as locum for Mr. L. Dundin, of Croydon, during the latter part of April and the beginning of May.

Messrs. Venning, of Sealcliff; **Robinson**, of Grindale; and **Fitts**, of Kilkenny, were each given assistance by **Mr. D. Moriarity** during various periods in March, April and May.

Mr. E. F. Lipsham, Lecturer in Pharmacy, visited the Eastern States on educational and other official matters during the May vacation.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Mr. J. C. Rowe has returned from Western Australia, where he has been managing the pharmacy owned by Mr. J. Porteus, of Leonora, and is now in charge of Runge's Pharmacy, Grenfell Street, Adelaide.

Letters from London bring the news that **Mr. I. Carnie** and **Mr. C. Lyons** have both been successful in the recent examinations for the Diploma in Biochemical Analysis of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Both are due back in South Australia in September next, after visiting the Continent and Scotland. John will be accompanied by his wife and small son, Grant.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society entertained **Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Maplethorpe**, of London, at dinner in the South Australian Hotel, on the night of April 24. Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Patterson were also present as guests. After dinner the party adjourned to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cotterell for the evening and general conversation. Mr. Maplethorpe is a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and Chairman of their Education Committee. He is also managing director of Allen and Hanburys Ltd., of London. The Vere Street retail establishment and the Ware manufacturing laboratories of the company were the places where Mr. R. T. Patterson (now works manager for F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd.) spent some years, gaining experience after the war. Mr. Maplethorpe visited the local warehouses during the day, and also made a brief call on the Pharmacy Department at the University.

Council Elections.—Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell, E. F. Lipsham and K. S. Porter have been elected unopposed to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society for the ensuing two years. Mr. J. U. Maxwell acted as Returning Officer.

F.S.M.A.—The following holiday arrangements have been in operation at the various branches of the Friendly Society Medical Association: **Mrs. B. Payne**, in place of Mr. D. Goscombe, of Hawthorn; **Mr. B. Kildea**, in place of Mr. R. A. Taylor, of Croydon; **Mr. K. Dawson**, in place of Mr. F. Gould, of Glenelg; **Mr. P. Warnock** leaves for England and the Continent on the "Oranto" in June.

Druids' Funds Exceed £1,000,000.—Funds of the S.A. United Ancient Order of Druids now total £1,016,364, and the membership is 13,817. The grand president (Mr. C. L. C. Lawson) told the annual conference in the Rechabite Hall, Adelaide, that the society was the first in S.A. to have funds exceeding £1m. The conference decided to continue medical refunds at the rate of 10/- a visit. Annual contributions of those who have been members of the society for 50 years will be reduced to 1/-. Mr. R. L. Gabell was elected grand president.

BIRTHS.

Bailey (nee Davies).—At Port Augusta, to Nesta and Geoff—a son.

Craig (nee Bell).—On April 19, at Memorial Hospital, to Dorothy and Lloyd—a daughter (Dianne Elizabeth).

Guthrie (nee Michaels).—On May 7, at Calvary, to Sheila and John—a daughter (Rosemary Anne).

MARRIAGES.

Osborne—Ramsey.—The marriage of John, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Osborne, of Lockleys, to Colin, third son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Ramsey, of Glandore, was solemnised at Torrensville Methodist Church on May 10.

Walter—Skewes.—The marriage of Peggy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Walters, of Meningie, with Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Skewes, of Port Pirie, was solemnised on May 17.

COMPULSORY X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.

Following the compulsory X-ray examination for T.B. conducted in Clare, South Australia, in March, several other towns have asked for similar surveys to be undertaken, the Minister of Health (Mr. McEwin) said on April 27.

A total of 2052 persons, including 227 children, had been X-rayed to date. Tentative dates had been fixed for surveys at Port Pirie, Gladstone, Crystal Brook, etc.

SALE OF PENICILLIN: WARNING.

A warning has been issued by the Central Board of Health against sale of penicillin without prescription.

A press notice points out that the maximum penalty for selling penicillin in any form suitable for human consumption, otherwise than on a doctor's prescription, is £50.

Mr. R. C. McCarthy, an Inspector of the Board of Health, stated that there had been a considerable demand for penicillin by persons without prescriptions. Most of the requests were for penicillin cream and penicillin ointment, and, to a lesser degree, penicillin lozenges.

Periodical reminders would be issued to chemists emphasising the need for close observance of the law.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY REDUCES REFUNDS ON DOCTORS' FEES.

"The Advertiser" for May 1 reports that the Albert District, No. 83, Independent Order of Rechabites, would reduce the refund of portion of doctors' fees to members from 10/- to 5/- as from May 22. Reason given is stated to be that Societies are finding great difficulty in meeting the cost of refunds on fees paid by their members. Such refunds, it is said, are costing about twice as much as members are contributing in subscriptions. The Secretary of the Society (Mr. R. W. Bowey) said the action that had been taken was necessary to avoid doubling the members' present quarterly contributions of 5/- for medical benefits.

The President and Secretary of the South Australian Friendly Societies Council (Messrs. H. Parkinson and L. W. Barrow) announced, however, that major friendly societies would continue to pay the present rebate of 8/- or 10/- on doctors' consultation fees. On their return from the Interstate Conference of Friendly Societies, held in Melbourne, they had been perturbed to read Mr. Bowey's statement. At the end of last year major Friendly Societies took action to adjust their affairs so that they have been able and will continue to be able to pay the original rebate of 8/- or 10/- on consultation fees. Friendly Society benefits would be considerably extended in the near future.

PHARMACY BOARD

Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 25 King William Street, Adelaide, on May 14, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, Walter C. Cotterell, C. A. M. Reid, D. C. Hill, and the Registrar.

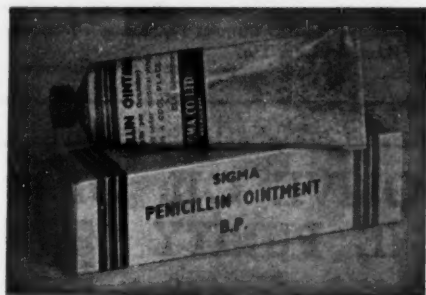
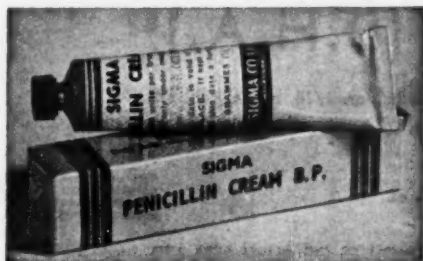
Mr. C. A. M. Reid was elected Chairman of the meeting.

Correspondence.—From P.A.A.N.Z., forwarding copy of letter received from International Pharmaceutical Federation. It was resolved that this Board endorses the principle outlined in the resolutions submitted by the International Pharmaceutical Federation, dealing with the obligations of an importing country to demand for every newly-imported specialty a certificate of origin, etc. As, however, this Board has not any knowledge of the background of the resolution it is not prepared to express any definite opinion.

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DIACOL (D.H.A.)*

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

In connection with the resolution dealing with Insulin, it was resolved that the P.A.A.N.Z. be advised that South Australian Legislation is similar to that of England, and until England changes its legislation this Board cannot see any reason for limiting Insulin sales to prescription only. It is pointed out, however, that under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, Insulin is free to the patient on production of the proper prescription.

Copy of Dangerous Drug Act 1951 Amendment from Great Britain. It was resolved that Mr. Porter be asked to review and report on this legislation.

From Pharmacy Board of Victoria, forwarding copy of minutes of meeting of Victorian Poisons Schedules Advisory Panel held 5/5/52. It was resolved that Mr. Porter be asked if he would review this report.

Finance.—Statement for the month of April was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £108/14/9 were passed for payment.

Practising Certificates.—Certificates of Identity have been received (1) from Great Britain in favour of Miss O. M. E. Hollingworth, and (2) from the Pharmacy Board of N.S.W. in favour of Mr. J. H. Hardy.

Galenicals.—Owing to the illness of Mr. Lenthall it will not be possible for the next set of Galenicals to be collected, and apprentices will be required to lodge these with Mr. Lipsham at the University.

Commonwealth Apprenticeship Enquiry.—Letter to and from Public Relations Secretariat, forwarding copy of circular. Two letters from Department of Labour and National Service. Received.

Apprentices.—Letter from P.A.A.N.Z., enclosing copy of letter from National Union of Pharmaceutical Students re reciprocity with Ontario. It was resolved that a reply be forwarded pointing out that as this State has not entered into a Reciprocal Agreement with the authorities in Ontario, Canada, it is unnecessary for any action to be taken in this State.

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Public Health, Perth, requesting information as to the position covering apprentices in hospitals in South Australia.

National Service Training.—It was resolved that the apprentices concerned be directed to have their indentures marked "Extended for a period of 98 days owing to absence from the pharmacy on National Service Training," and return the indentures to the office for noting of extension.

Essential Equipment for Training of Apprentices.—Various matters were discussed and the necessary action taken.

Advertising.—Letters have been forwarded to two pharmacists asking them to conform with the requirements of the resolution passed at the Brisbane Conference, dealing with the matter of advertising.

Labels.—It was decided that a letter should be forwarded to a pharmacist requesting him to discontinue the use of red colouring on labels.

Training in South Africa.—A copy of the report of the committee set up in South Africa to enquire into the training of chemists and druggists was received, and it was decided that this should be circulated among the members of the Board and considered further at the next meeting.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at 25 King William Street, Adelaide, on May 6, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Mr. J. D. Garrett (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, A. C. Holloway, V. L. Mitchell, Walter C. Cotterell, K. S. Porter, and the Secretary.

D.D. and Third Schedule Poisons.—As a result of suggestions made at the half-yearly meeting of members a Sub-Committee of the Council met a representative of the Department of Public Health, and it is anticipated that a booklet will be produced in loose-leaf form setting out the requirements under Dangerous Drug and Third Schedule Poison legislation, and also the possibility of the production of a sheet which can be easily displayed in the pharmacy, covering the more common Dangerous Drugs and Third Schedule Poisons.

Correspondence.—Copies of the report of the meeting of the Executive of the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies, held on 3/4/52, were received, and it was resolved that copies of this report be circulated to the members of the Council and that further consideration of such report be deferred until next meeting.

Dealing with the matter of the subscription to the International Pharmaceutical Federation, it was resolved that the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies be advised that this Society does not subscribe to this Federation, and without the necessary information regarding the Federation this Council is not in a position to express an opinion as to whether it is desirable for the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies to pay any subscription.

From P.A.A.N.Z., forwarding copy of communication from the International Pharmaceutical Federation. It was resolved that this Council endorses the principal outlined in the resolution submitted by the International Pharmaceutical Federation dealing with the obligation of an importing country to demand for every newly imported specialty a certificate of origin, etc. As, however, this Council has not any knowledge of the background of the resolution it is not prepared to express any definite opinion.

In connection with the resolution dealing with Insulin it was resolved that P.A.A.N.Z. be advised that South Australian legislation is similar to that of England, and until England changes its legislation this Council cannot see any reason for limiting Insulin sales to prescription only. It is pointed out, however, that under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Act, Insulin is free to the patient on production of the proper prescription.

Letter to and from Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat re articles for South Australian press. It was resolved that this Council adopts the suggestion of Mr. Attiwill that an approach should be made to the Editor of "The Advertiser" and "The News" with a view to a publication similar to those which have already appeared in Melbourne papers. It was further resolved that Messrs. J. D. Garrett and K. S. Porter be appointed to prepare the necessary information, and that such be forwarded to Mr. Attiwill for his approval. It was further resolved that the attention of the Public Relations Secretariat be drawn to articles in "The Reader's Digest," which might be dealt with from the Secretariat.

Pharmaceutical-Medical Liaison Committee:

Standard Packaging.—It was resolved that we request that a copy of the case being prepared for submission to the Drug and Allied Trades Council of Australia be made available to this Council if P.A.A.N.Z. require comments from this Society.

P.A.S. Tablets.—Secretary reported that an officer of the British Medical Association had telephoned to say that the medical profession thought it desirable for pharmacists to issue a warning to anybody desiring to purchase P.A.S. Tablets without previously having them prescribed by a medical practitioner.

Finance.—Statement for the month of April was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £1030/5/6 were passed for payment.

Reprint of Drug Law.—Sub-Committee reported that an order had been placed for 1000 copies and that such should be available within the course of the next few weeks.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Membership.—Application was received and approved from Mr. R. C. W. Mudie.

Secretary reported that the subscriptions of three members are still unpaid.

Forty-two applications for Student Associate membership were received and approved.

Pharmaceutical Education.—The Tripartite Committee had its first meeting on April 30, and a further meeting will be held on May 20.

Conference.—Mr. Lipham was appointed as a delegate from this Society to the meeting of Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.

Lectures on Human Biology.—Secretary reported that circulars had been sent out to members dealing with the series of lectures to be given by Mr. K. D. Johnson.

A.P.F.—Letter received from P.A.A.N.Z. re reprint of 1947 Edition of A.P.F. It was resolved that the Association be informed that we do not require any further copies, and requesting information as to when the draft of the new A.P.F. will be available for consideration by the local committee.

Election.—The Returning Officer, Mr. J. U. Maxwell, advised that Messrs. Walter C. Cotterell, E. F. Lipham and K. S. Porter had been re-elected for the ensuing two years.

Complimentary Dinner to Newly-qualified Members.—Secretary reported that the Sub-committee had met, and arrangements are proceeding satisfactorily.

THE GUILD

S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 195 Victoria Square, Adelaide, on May 13, at 7.45 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. V. L. Mitchell (President), J. D. Garrett, Walter C. Cotterell, H. G. Collyer, E. L. Miller, A. C. Holloway, G. K. F. Scott, A. A. Russell, and the Secretary.

New Members Elected.—Mr. D. C. Hill, Stirling, transferred from Estate N. I. Gryst. Also has opened a branch at 108 Glyne road, Tranmere. D. Finlayson, branch at 73a Hindley street, Adelaide. V. L. Clarke, transferred from Whyalla to Cowell. O. P. Conley, transferred from Snowtown to Gawler.

Correspondence: Federal Office. (1) Amendment to Rules.—Received. (2) Re P.M.B. The Pricing Officer, Mr. J. D. Garrett, undertook to prepare an article on this matter for publication.

Public Relations Secretariat. Re Friendly Societies. Information submitted was received with appreciation.

Merchandising Service. (1) Re Nada Toothbrushes. Secretary to write to the Federal Merchandising Manager to endeavour to have Nada Toothbrushes put in line with Tex prices. (2) Gilseal Stripper Dye. The S.B.C. were very happy to receive the information contained in the letter that Dye Stripper was back on the market again.

Federal Delegate's Report.—The Federal Delegate, Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, gave a resume upon Increased Annual Fees; Pricing Service and proposed new Loose Leaf Price System; Federal Office Building; Pensioner Medical Service; Conversion of Loan; Statistical Report; Correspondence from Director-General of Health; Federal Council Meeting in June; Correspondence re Mr. Williamson; B.M.A. and Pharmaceutical Association Liaison Committee; Blue Cross Association.

Mr. Cotterell was thanked accordingly.

Pricing Officer's Report.—The Pricing Officer, Mr. J. D. Garrett, gave the usual resume on Price variations.

These will be collated for publication in the next "Gilseal News."

Financial.—Accounts totalling £87/11/5 were passed for payment.

Aureomycin.—It was reported that all members who had purchased Aureomycin from A. M. Bickford & Sons Ltd. between February 3 and 28 at the higher price could obtain rebates on application to the company.

Standard Packages.—Circulars from Pharmaceutical Association of Australia and New Zealand.—The S.B.C. agreed with the purpose of standard packages.

Wages Awards.—Secretary to write the Wages Board representatives and endeavour to ascertain wage ruling for relievers.

Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.—As all members had received the notification, consideration was deferred until next meeting.

General.—Resolved that the next country meeting be held at Murray Bridge on June 15, at 10.30 a.m.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

State News

Mr. J. C. Ward, of Scarborough, has opened a branch pharmacy at Double View, with Mr. E. E. Down in charge.

Mr. B. S. Tassicker has purchased the late Mr. J. McLean's pharmacy, at Katanning. We extend our best wishes to these two pharmacists.

Mr. B. B. Caldwell spent a short holiday at Katanning last month. Mr. V. C. Cooper was in charge of the pharmacy at Shenton Park.

Mr. E. M. Palmer's relieving activities last month enabled Messrs. H. M. Armstrong, F. Rowe and A. J. McMahon to have holidays.

Mr. A. R. Kierath was in charge of Mr. R. Dalby's Leederville Pharmacy whilst the latter spent three weeks' holiday at Kwinana last month.

Miss Pam Jacob sailed on the "Dunroon," on May 23, for Melbourne, where she intends doing locum work for some time.

We are glad to see **Mr. R. C. Elphinstone** back on duty after about five months on the sick list. He has lost a lot of weight, and says he feels much better for it.

Mr. E. H. Williams was in charge at the Friendly Societies Dispensary, Victoria Park, during the absence of Mr. C. M. Saunders, who spent his holiday in the Eastern States.

Mr. R. E. B. Stacy, who has been doing relieving work in the Eastern States and New Zealand for the past 12 months, paid a brief visit to his father, Mr. E. B. Stacy, of York, last month, prior to leaving for Fiji, where he has accepted a managerial position.

Mr. Keith Smith, of London Court, and **Mr. J. Burke**, of Bunbury, were also amongst the holiday-makers. Mr. R. M. Purtil and Miss J. Wignall were in charge of the respective pharmacies.

Miss Betty Wilson is now in charge of Mr. Wynne's St. George's Terrace Pharmacy, in succession to Mr. R. M. Purtil, who, we understand, will shortly be opening his own pharmacy.

After four weeks in hospital **Mr. John Nott** has gone to Carnarvon in the hope that the warmer climate will assist his convalescence. His many friends sincerely wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. C. M. Wright, of Midland Junction, spent his holiday at Mandurah, where he says the fish are small, but sweet. **Mr. B. Smyth** was in charge of the pharmacy.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

At the Pharmaceutical Council Meeting, held on May 6, Miss Joanne B. Gibson was registered as a pharmacist by examination, and the death of Mr. John Scurlock was recorded.

We were extremely sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. J. Scurlock following on the death of his father recently. We understand that he has been ordered complete rest for some time. Mr. I. H. Spence is in charge of the pharmacy.

After about a quarter of a century at the North Perth Pharmacy, Mr. S. T. Samaha has disposed of the business to Mr. John Rowe. It will be remembered that Mr. Rowe sold his pharmacy in Beaufort Street to Mr. H. N. Armstrong about two years ago, but has now succumbed to the urge to be in action again. We extend our best wishes.

Duties of Apprentices.—At the Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of W.A. there was some discussion concerning the duties of apprentices, and it was agreed to ask the Council to give a ruling. The following wording has been recommended by the Tripartite Committee and adopted by the Council:—

"Having regard to the objective of training, viz., To provide a sound training for retail pharmacy, an apprentice should be taught and expected to do everything necessary to the proper conduct of his business if he were conducting a 'one-man' pharmacy without assistance."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

At the Monthly Meeting of the W.A. Pharmaceutical Society, on April 23, Dr. E. Beech gave a very interesting talk on the *Ductless Glands*.

In extending a welcome to members, the President, Mr. H. D. Fitch, expressed pleasure that the meeting was so well attended, there being over 70 present.

At the conclusion of the doctor's address several questions were answered, and a hearty vote of thanks was carried at the instigation of Mr. R. J. Healy.

ALTERATIONS TO SCHEDULES.

The following notices of interest to pharmacists appeared in the Government Gazette last month:—

- (1) Anti-Histamine preparations for EXTERNAL USE ONLY were removed from the Tenth Schedule. This means that these may now be sold without a prescription; but a prescription is still required for anti-histamine preparations for internal use, which, however, may be repeated indefinitely.
- (2) Methyl Alcohol in concentration over 5 per cent. was added to the 9th Schedule. This substance, which is now used extensively as a substitute for Methylated Spirits, must be labelled in accordance with the requirements for poisons and sold only in poison bottles.

SALE OF MEDICATED WINES.

Following a newspaper report concerning the sale of medicated wines by chemists, the Registrar draws attention to the following sections of the Licensing Act for the information of members:—

- (1) Sec. 46 authorises a chemist to sell spiritous distilled or fermented liquors for bona fide medicinal purposes only.
- (2) Sec. 141 prohibits the sale of any intoxicating liquor to any person who is at the time in a state of intoxication or visibly affected by liquor.
- (3) Sec. 150 prohibits the sale or supply of liquor to any aboriginal native for himself or for any other person.

Subject to the above restrictions Medicinal Wines may be sold by a pharmacist at any time that the pharmacy is lawfully open.

JUBILEE OF FELTON, GRIMWADE & BICKFORD LTD.

Coinciding with the recent visit to Perth of Mr. G. H. Grimwade, Chairman of Drug Houses of Australia Ltd., the above company celebrated its jubilee in the form of a buffet dinner, held at "Overton Lodge," Cottesloe.

The guests present represented a cross-section of Perth's business interests.

During the evening, Mr. Grimwade was formally introduced to the company's guests, and in making his response, he particularly emphasised the confidence being shown in Western Australia by world-wide vested interests.

Mr. M. W. Willington, Managing Director of Felton, Grimwade & Bickford Ltd., gave a retrospect of the company's activities over the past 50 years. For instance, the company's origin came about by the amalgamation of the interests of two firms, Felton Grimwade & Co., of Melbourne, and A. M. Bickford & Sons, of Adelaide, on January 17, 1902. Comparing conditions then and now, Mr. Willington stated the pay roll included a mere 36 persons, who received for their labours £107 weekly, averaging £3 per head, compared with 213 at the present time, averaging approximately £11 per head. The proportion of females to males then, was only 10 per cent. — today it is 37 per cent.!

Motor transport in those days was unknown, the receipt and delivery of goods being made by horse-drawn lorries and vans. The travelling staff used various modes when calling on customers, such as horse and sulky, trains, trams, push cycle and "shanks' pony."

The company's delivery fleet in those days comprised one two-horse lorry and one van. Today there are seven trucks, one van and eleven cars for travellers.

Deliveries from the Fremantle wharves were accomplished by horse lorry, goods rail, and in particular per river by the lighters of the Swan River Shipping Co.

Many chemists would recall that until 1923, F. G. & B. carried on its business at 419 Wellington Street. The present premises at 297 Murray Street were then purchased from Harris, Scarfe & Co., the change-over taking place during the Christmas holidays of 1923.

Over the past 50 years the company had branch warehouses at Fremantle and Kalgoorlie, and from 1914 manufacturing had been carried out at the Laboratory and Works, Charles Street, West Perth. A new manufacturing centre is now in the process of being erected on the corner of Troy Terrace and Hay Street, Subiaco.

In 1930, Drug Houses of Australia Ltd., was formed as a Holding Company to take over the interests of the then shareholders, together with other associated Interstate drug organisations.

Felton, Grimwade & Bickford's progress since becoming a unit of D.H.A. has been rapid, and the many technical and developmental divisions created by the parent company have already done much for the advancement of medicine and industry. Thus the foundation laid by this group of wholesale drug interests should prove of immense value to the development of the Commonwealth.

Throughout the evening harmony was provided by Mr. Merv. Kidd, and all who attended voted the function an event to remember.

THE GUILD

S.B.C.
Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 51 King street, Perth, on April 8.

Present: Messrs. R. W. C. Dalby (chair), G. D. T. Allan, J. W. Bodkin, R. Edinger, A. Baxter and W. G. Lewis.

Obituary.—The President declared the meeting open and then the meeting stood in silence as a mark of re-

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Continued)

spect for the passing of one of our foundation members, the late Mr. J. Scurlock, who died on April 7.

Freight Charge.—The Secretary reported that no reply had yet been received from the Department of Health Pharmaceutical Services with reference to the 3/- a dozen freight on Protamine Zinc Insulin.

Correspondence.—The correspondence as read was received.

New Member Elected.—Mr. J. Sargent, of 8th Avenue, Maylands.

After-Hour Trading.—Resolved that the W.A. Branch does not consider it necessary to increase the hours of trading; in fact it considers that a reduction in after-hour trading is warranted so long as a complete pharmaceutical service is maintained.

Pricing Committee.—Resolved that the following be elected as a Pricing Committee: Messrs. J. W. Bodkin, W. G. Lewis, H. Walby and W. L. Fackner.

Trade and Commerce Committee.—Resolved that the following be elected to the Trade and Commerce Committee, subject to acceptance: Mr. G. D. T. Allan, representing Cottesloe; Mr. R. W. C. Dalby, representing Leederville; Mr. R. Edinger, representing Fremantle; Mr. M. H. Arnold, representing Mt. Lawley; Mr. D. G. White, representing City; Mr. S. Wilson, representing South Perth; Mr. A. Rock, representing Midland Junction.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Act.—Resolved that the W.A. Branch views with deep concern any move by the Federal Government that will in any way alter the status quo of the chemist, in any way reduce the margin of gross profit either by reduction of percentage profit or breakage factor, and that we most urgently request that the Federal Office protest against any such move to the Federal Government.

Resolved that the Secretary contact the Department of Health re their memo CCM8, dated the 4/4/52, with reference to unauthorised benefits, and report back.

Recommended that the Secretary call upon the large departmental stores pharmacy departments and advise them not to cost the originals of Repatriation dispensing. The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

MAY MEETING OF THE GUILD S.B.C.

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 51 King Street, Perth, on May 13.

Present.—Messrs. G. H. Dallimore, G. D. T. Allan, R. Edinger, J. W. Bodkin, A. Baxter, R. Cohen, W. G. Lewis, R. J. Healy, and members as per attendance sheet.

Correspondence.—The correspondence as read was received.

New Member Elected.—Mr. Robt. M. Purtill, 178 Grand Promenade, Bedford Park.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Act and Pensioners' Medical Scheme.—Resolved that a letter be sent to Federal Office protesting against the removal of lines from P.B.A. without notice.

Resolved that Public Relations be requested to notify W.A. by airmail of any alterations to P.B.A. or P.M.S. which they obtain, and also that they post airmail any Government Gazettes, dealing with health schemes as soon as they are available, as we do not receive them here until at least a fortnight later.

Increased Fees.—Resolved that Federal Office be requested to explain to members the Rules referred to in the ballot paper (Subscriptions and Branch Fees) as no members are in possession of current Constitution and Rules.

Nada Tooth Brushes.—Resolved that the Federal Merchandising Department be written to, asking the

possibilities of including a Baby Tooth Brush in the Nada range.

Hospital Dispensing.—Recommended by this Committee that Mr. Letis, of Norseman, be advised not to contract for hospital dispensing at any rates lower than P.M.S.

Second Delegate's Expenses.—Resolved that Federal Office be asked the amount owing for our second delegates expenses to the recent Federal meeting, and that same be paid forthwith.

"Propain."—Resolved that the Federal Merchandising Department be requested to have placed on all "Propain" stands a short explanation of what "Propain" is used for, as we feel a lot of sales are lost through this information not being readily available to the public.

"California" Syrup of Figs.—Resolved that the Trade and Commerce Committee's recommendations re the new marketing campaign of California Syrup of Figs be accepted, and that Salmon & Spraggon (A'asia) Ltd. be advised that the only terms and conditions under which we will come into the scheme are as follows:—

- (1) That the scheme must be available to all chemists.
- (2) That the chemists be paid the cash profit on each sale.
- (3) That all surplus stock held by chemists at the end of the campaign be redeemed.
- (4) That the suppliers refrain from expressing that this scheme is Guild sponsored.

Window Displays.—Resolved that Mr. Dallimore contact Mr. Hicks re window displays in the future, and report to the next meeting.

Increased Fees.—Recommend that this branch submit as a remit to the next Federal Council meeting the following: That in the future consideration will be given to the idea of determining annual subscriptions on a pro rata scale based on a chemist's wage bill instead of the present flat rate system, which makes Guild fees very small to the large city pharmacies and large to the smaller country and suburban chemists.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

TASMANIA

PERSONAL and GENERAL

RETIREMENT OF MR. FRED HOLMES.

Sixty Years in Pharmacy.

Mr. F. T. Holmes, of Hatton and Laws, Launceston, who recently retired from active practice, has served his profession with dignity and credit for nearly sixty years, during which time he has been associated with practically every organisation and movement established for the advancement of pharmacy.

Fred T. Holmes began his pharmaceutical career when he was apprenticed to his father, Frederic Holmes, in January, 1893; a period of four years' apprenticeship in those days was a rather loose affair, for one year of that apprenticeship was spent in study at his old school with a view to matriculation. An apprentice was mainly his own tutor, except in dispensing, and the manufacture of B.P. preparations. No lectures in Botany, Materia Medica, or Chemistry, which subjects

TASMANIA (Continued)

he had to take with Pharmacy and Dispensing, all at the one examination for his qualifying.

In 1897 Fred joined the staff of Henry Francis & Co., in Melbourne. He attended lectures at the Victorian College of Pharmacy in the mornings, being associated with F. H. Neale, C. P. Rowan, P. Williams, T. E. Wade, A. E. Davis and Miss J. G. Walker, the first woman to attend the College, and did dispensing at the Collins Street pharmacy in the afternoons.

He passed his Intermediate in Melbourne in that year, and returned to rejoin Hatton and Laws, studying for his Final, which he passed at the end of the year, obtaining an average of 75 per cent. in all subjects. In June, 1899, he passed his Final in Melbourne.

In 1900 Fred began his career in Official Pharmacy by being appointed Northern Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society. He was one of the founders of the Northern Tasmanian Pharmacists' and Dentists' Association, of which the late H. E. D. Stevens, father of Dr. F. R. T. Stevens, was the Secretary.

On two occasions he stood for election for seats on the Pharmacy Board, but was unsuccessful. Forty-three years ago he was examiner in Chemistry, and has been an examiner ever since, in each subject at some time. Perhaps his most interesting experiences as an examiner were when he was asked to go to Hobart to examine in Dispensing on two occasions, because of a considerable amount of newspaper correspondence caused by the inability of the examiner to pass several candidates on more than one occasion.

After Fred had examined those candidates twice, and failed to pass anyone on either occasion, the correspondence ceased.

When the Guild was in process of being established, Fred put a lot of work into fostering it, and held the office of Northern Secretary, or Northern President, for many years. At the present time he is Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, and Tasmanian representative on the Federal Council of Pharmaceutical Societies of Australia. Fred has been a delegate to the meetings of the Pharmaceutical Association meetings on several occasions.

[Best wishes for a long and happy retirement, and congratulations on a job well done.—Ed.]

PHARMACY BOARD

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 140 Collins Street, Hobart, on April 21, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. H. H. Pearce (President), T. A. Stephens, D. R. Crisp, A. P. Brammall, L. W. Palfreyman, E. H. Shield.

New Syllabus.—Mr. Pearce explained that Dr. J. C. Burgin had worked out details of a new syllabus following the lines suggested by Mr. Sissons, and that it would be necessary for the Board to give approval of the new syllabus.

Dr. Burgin presented an outline of his proposed syllabus for the complete course, and after he had answered a number of questions in connection therewith Mr. Crisp moved, seconded by Mr. Shield: That the syllabus to be adopted should be based on the outlines given by Dr. Burgin. Carried.

Further consideration as to assistance to be given to Dr. Burgin in elaborating on his syllabus was left until after the first meeting of the State Advisory Committee for Technical Branch Pharmacy Courses.

The hours spent by an apprentice on his course were discussed, and the meeting decided that the provision

Monthly Meeting

of the apprenticeship indenture form under Section 3B should read:—

The time occupied in attending such lectures shall not exceed ten hours during any one week. and the Registrar was instructed to advise the Department of Labour and Industry of the intention to specify this number of hours.

Examination Room.—Dr. Burgin advised that he was not able to say if a room would be available for the next dispensing examinations. Mr. Pearce advised that the room would be still available at 140 Collins Street for the time being.

No immediate action would therefore be taken regarding the apparatus.

Examinations.—The meeting approved the following dates for examinations:—

Intermediate: June 4, 5 and 6.

Final: June 2.

Indentures.—The following indentures were registered: Mary Wallace to Ian Bruce McLeod; Dorothy May Allen to Frank Henry Cartledge; and Anne Bailey to Glynn Roy Bester.

The transfer of indentures of Edith L. Knight from G. R. Bester to L. H. Gluskie was approved.

The cancellation of indentures of Peter Tasman Williams to L. H. Gluskie by mutual consent was registered.

Stock Medicines Board.—Mr. L. W. Palfreyman was nominated to represent the Board on the Stock Medicines Board.

Pharmaceutical Register.—The following registrations were approved: Peter A. H. Wright, Mrs. Helen C. McCall, Arnold Arthur, and William George Webb.

Deputy Registrar.—Mr. Pearce expressed regret that this was Miss Swinton's last meeting, after so many years with the Board.

THE GUILD

Executive Meeting

The Executive of the Tasmanian Branch of the Guild met at 73 Liverpool street, Hobart, on April 24, at 7.30 p.m.

Present.—Messrs. A. P. Brammall (Chairman), L. W. Palfreyman, C. B. Dillon, C. A. Robertson, T. A. Stephens, D. R. Crisp, J. H. Gould and the Secretary.

President.—Mr. Brammall stated that the purpose for calling this Executive meeting was to report that having disposed of his business as from April 30, he tendered his resignation as President and as a member of the Guild.

The meeting accepted Mr. Brammall's resignation with much regret, and considered that a President and Vice-President, should be elected to hold office until the next annual election.

Mr. L. W. Palfreyman was elected President and Mr. D. R. Crisp Vice-President.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRANCH

A General Meeting of the Tasmanian Branch of the Guild was held at 73 Liverpool street, Hobart, on April 24, at 8 p.m.

Present.—Mr. L. W. Palfreyman (President), Miss E. M. Hurst, Messrs. A. P. Brammall, A. G. Gould, J. M. Beaumont, C. B. Dillon, G. M. Fleming, C. A. Robertson, T. A. Stephens, A. G. Crane, D. R. Crisp, J. H. Gould and Secretary.

President.—Mr. Palfreyman reported that Mr. Brammall had disposed of his business, and it was with much regret that his resignation from the Guild had been accepted. He reported that he had been appointed President and Mr. D. R. Crisp Vice-President to fill the vacancies until the next election.

Guild Subscription.—The President referred to the ballot being taken to consider increasing the annual subscription to the Guild, and stressed the necessity

TASMANIA (Continued)

for a £10/10/- subscription. All present agreed with this view.

Pricing Service.—A report from the Federal Circular was read explaining the proposal to contract with "Permindex" to set up and supply Guild members with a continuous, weekly, up-to-date service.

Specimen lists were inspected. Mr. Robertson stated that he had used the lists over the past fortnight and found them to be the most satisfactory lists he had yet used.

Members considered that £12/12/- for the first year was satisfactory.

Mr. Fleming moved, seconded by Mr. Crisp, that we support the introduction of this pricing service.—Carried.

Membership.—The resignation of Mr. F. T. Holmes who has retired from retail pharmacy, was accepted with very much regret. Members decided that a letter of appreciation should be forwarded to Mr. Holmes in recognition of the service which he had given to the Guild.

In order to complete our records, a formal application was received and accepted from Mr. F. Warland-Browne, 84 Brisbane street, Launceston.

Application for membership was received and accepted from Mr. Owen Kalbfell Colman, 92 Liverpool street, Hobart.

Financial.—Accounts totalling £62/3/9 were passed for payment.

Lodge Contracts.—A letter was received from the Associated Pulp & Paper Makers' Council, Burnie, advising that they were prepared to enter into a contract for the supply of medicines to their members subject to three adjustments to the list of terms submitted by the Guild.

The meeting decided that a copy of the letter should be forwarded to the chemists concerned, advising them that the matter would be discussed at the Ulverstone meeting on May 4.

Pharmaceutical Liaison Committee.—Members decided that a meeting of this committee should be held on May 5.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

COMMONWEALTH

PERSONAL and GENERAL

VACANCIES FOR PHARMACISTS

The Army is seeking a number of qualified pharmacists for work at medical equipment depots and camp hospitals.

Successful applicants would enter the Army with the rank of lieutenant and would have good opportunity for promotion. They may be appointed on a short-term commission of five years, or on a career basis—until reaching retiring age.

Apart from Service amenities such as free medical and dental facilities and initial clothing issue, rates of pay compare more than favourably with those applicable to pharmacists in civil life.

Applications should be addressed to Command Headquarters in the applicant's home State. The Deputy Director of Medical Services at any Command Headquarters would provide further particulars to intending applicants.

HOW THE LAW SHIELDS YOU

By a Lawyer.

Several noted lawyers have recently advocated a revision of Australia's half-century-old written Constitution. Even when it was first framed the Constitution was a compromise between conflicting interests and the passing years have revealed serious weaknesses, notably in regard to industrial disputes and interstate trade.

But whatever changes are or are not made in the Constitution, they will not affect the vast majority of the rules of law under which we conduct our everyday affairs. These rules of law are not the product of any one brain or set of brains. They are the result of centuries of experience, and the testing of rights in the courts of law throughout Britain's long history.

This body of rules has come to be known as "the common law." The name itself means law which over the centuries has come from the customs of the people declared by judges as law common to the whole realm, as opposed to customs of a particular locality. It has been taken from England to many countries settled by Englishmen, notably Australia, all of Canada, except Quebec, and the United States. In its very early stages the judges were sometimes churchmen. This means that the common law was subjected to strong Christian influences.

One of the most important phrases in the Remembrance Day Call to the People of Australia was: "We call for an adequate understanding of the law and its necessity as the principle of order in a free society."

It might therefore be fitting to refer to a number of aspects of the rule of law which are frequently misunderstood.

Three vital aspects of the rule of law are:—

- (1) No man can be deprived of his life, liberty or possessions, except for a breach of the law established in the courts of the land: the Executive Government has no arbitrary power to interfere with anyone.
- (2) No man is above the law. Even the most powerful is subject to the ordinary courts.
- (3) The broad general freedoms we enjoy are simply the result of judicial decisions determining the rights and duties of private persons in particular cases brought before the Courts. The so-called right of free speech, the right of freedom of meeting, the right of personal liberty, and so on, are simply the expression of our freedom to say what we like, go where we like and do what we like, so long as our actions do not injure our fellow members of society. To ensure that our liberty of action does not result in injury to others, it must of course be to that extent circumscribed.

Free speech does not include blasphemy or slander; freedom to meet does not mean at our meeting we may conspire to commit a crime or may commit a breach of the peace; we may be arrested if it is alleged that we have committed a serious crime, but even then in general we may regain liberty on giving bail pending a decision whether or not we did commit the crime. So we may see that the common law is the guarantee and sure shield of our personal freedoms.

It is noteworthy that of those who preside over the various courts, from Petty Sessions to the High Court, the only ones coming from the public service are the stipendiary magistrates. And in all serious criminal cases the questions of fact must be decided by a jury, and in most civil cases of the kind we are discussing the questions of fact may be decided by a jury at the option of either party.

Thus through the common law the ordinary citizen retains a great degree of control over his own freedom.



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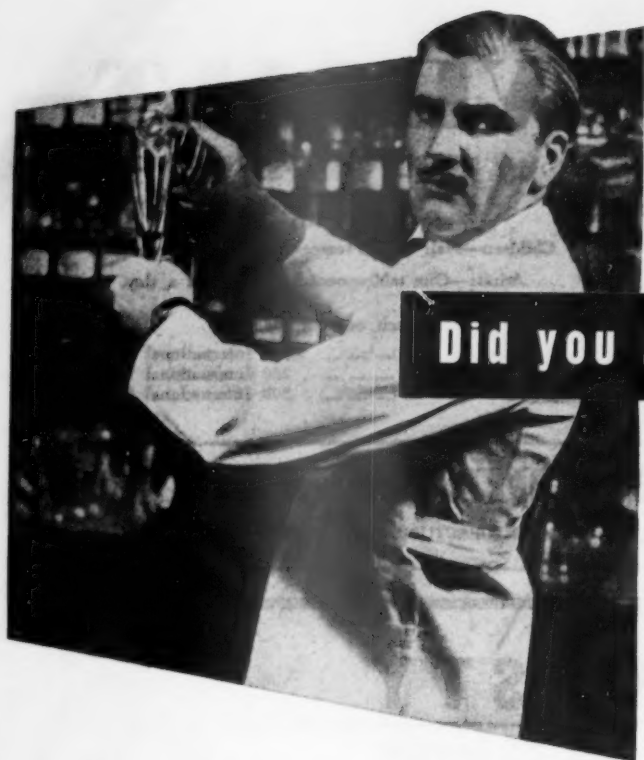
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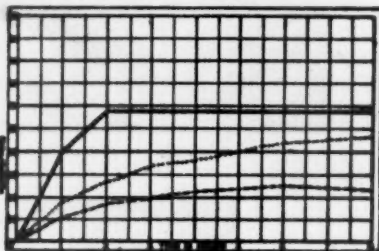
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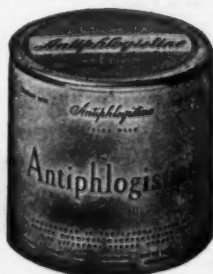
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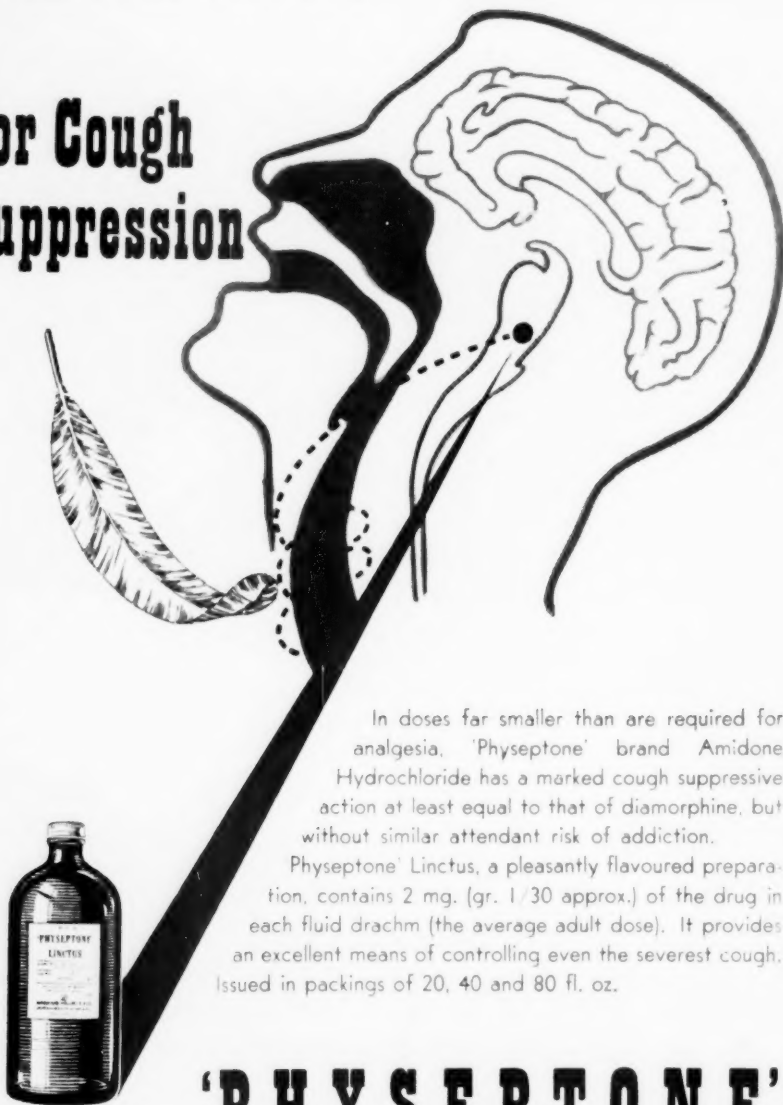
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